FLOWER COMICS α
flowersフラワーコミックスアルファ

セブンシーズ
7SEEDS
22

Yumi Tamura
田村由美

小学館
FCα4470

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7SEEDS 22
田村由美

●作品紹介

★地球が壊滅的被害を受ける巨大隕石の落下。それを察知した政府が人類という種を存続させるためにうった方策の一つが「7SEEDS」計画である。離れ離れになってしまった彼らは、再会を果たすため、それぞれが動き始めた。行きついた場所に待ち受けていたものは、邂逅とあらたな試練で——!?

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収穫の秋! 大増ページ号!!

巻頭カラー

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萩尾望都

出かけよう。未来へ。

水城せとな

【失恋ショコラティエ】

吉村明美

久織ちまき

【わくらはエンゲージ】

岩本ナオ

【町でうわさの】

西炯子

【姉の結婚】

新章快調サバイバルサスペンス!

7SEEDS

セブンシーズ

田村由美

累計
500万部
突破!

7 SEEDS

by Tamura Yumi

Chapter 112

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＊ Flowers Flower Comics α ＊

Tamura Yumi
田村由美

7SEEDS
セブンシーズ

22

*T/N: Yamato Nadeshiko is the personification of the idealised Japanese woman. The name is derived from an ancient name for Japan (*yamato*) and a frilled pink carnation (*nadeshiko*).

TEAM SUMMER A

BAN

AN EXPERT WHEN IT COMES TO MEDICAL CARE AND FIRST AID. HE HAS A CALM AND GENTLE DISPOSITION.

TEAM SPRING

AMACHA FUJIKO

A YOUNG WOMAN WHO IS AIMING TO BE A DOCTOR. THOUGHT TO BE SWEPT AWAY IN A FLOOD, HER CURRENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN.

TEAM WINTER

ARAMAKI TAKAHIRO

FORMER HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALLER WHO WANDERED THE EARTH FOR 15 YEARS BEFORE ANYONE ELSE. HE IS A HIGHLY SENSITIVE PERSON.

TEAM SPRING

SUGURONO HANA

A POSITIVE GIRL WHO WAS TRAINED IN THE ART OF SURVIVAL BY HER FATHER.

TEAM AUTUMN

SHIKANO KURUMI

AN OPEN-MINDED YOUNG WOMAN. CURRENTLY SHE IS PREGNANT WITH RYUSEI'S CHILD, A MAN FROM HER TEAM.

TEAM SPRING

TAIAMI CHISA

THOUGH RESERVED AND MILD-MANNERED, SHE IS A STRONG HEARTED YAMATO NADESHIKO*. LIKE FUJIKO, HER WHEREABOUTS ARE ALSO UNKNOWN.

TEAM SUMMER A

AYU

AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD OF BOTANY. CURRENTLY TRAVELLING TOGETHER WITH ARAMAKI.

TEAM SUMMER B

AOTA ARASHI

A YOUNG MAN WITH A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE. HE IS IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH HANA OF TEAM SPRING.

CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARACTER CHARA

7 SEEDS (セブンシーズ) 22

flowers フラワーコミックスα

STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY STORY

WHEN THE SUMMER TEAMS' VOYAGE IS BROUGHT TO A HALT, THE GANG DECIDE TO EXPLORE THE MASSIVE SHIP THAT APPEARS BEFORE THEM. THEY EFFECTIVELY REBOOT THE SYSTEM UPON ENTERING THE SHIP, CAUSING THE RECOMMENCEMENT OF THE NUCLEAR MISSILE LAUNCH AND SELF-DESTRUCT SEQUENCE COUNTDOWN. DESPITE THEIR EFFORTS, THE SUMMER GANG FAIL TO CANCEL THE MISSILE LAUNCH. WHILE RELUCTANTLY MAKING THEIR ESCAPE, THE OUTBREAK OF IRON-EATING BACTERIA WITHIN THE SHIP MANAGES TO PUT A STOP TO THE LAUNCH, THEREBY ALLOWING EVERYONE TO NARROWLY AVERT DEATH.

AROUND THAT TIME, HANA, WHO IS THOUGHT TO BE DEAD AFTER BEING SUCKED INTO A RAPID UNDERGROUND CURRENT, WASHES UP ASHORE AND SURVIVES. ALTHOUGH THEY HAD LOST ONE ANOTHER SOME TIME AGO, ONE NIGHT HANA SPOTS THE SILHOUETTE OF SOMEONE WHO LOOKS LIKE FUJIKO...?!

IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE, A GIANT METEORITE HAS COLLIDED WITH EARTH. ALL LIVING ORGANISMS, INCLUDING MANKIND, HAVE BEEN WIPED OFF THE FACE OF THE PLANET.

THE GOVERNMENT, WHO HAD FORESEEN THIS OUTCOME, TOOK MEASURES TO COUNTER THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO. IN PARTICULAR WAS PROJECT "7 SEEDS", IN WHICH FIVE SETS OF SEVEN GIFTED YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WERE CAREFULLY SELECTED AND PLACED INTO TEAMS. EACH PARTICIPANT WAS THEN PUT UNDER CRYOGENIC SLEEP IN HOPE OF PRESERVING THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF MANKIND.

WHEN THOSE MEN AND WOMEN AWOKE, THEY FOUND THEMSELVES SUDDENLY THRUST INTO A CRUEL WORLD. WHILE BEREFT AND GRIEVED OVER FOREVER LOSING THEIR LOVED ONES, THEY SOUGHT TO FIND WAYS TO SURVIVE.

7 SEEDS (セブンシーズ) 22

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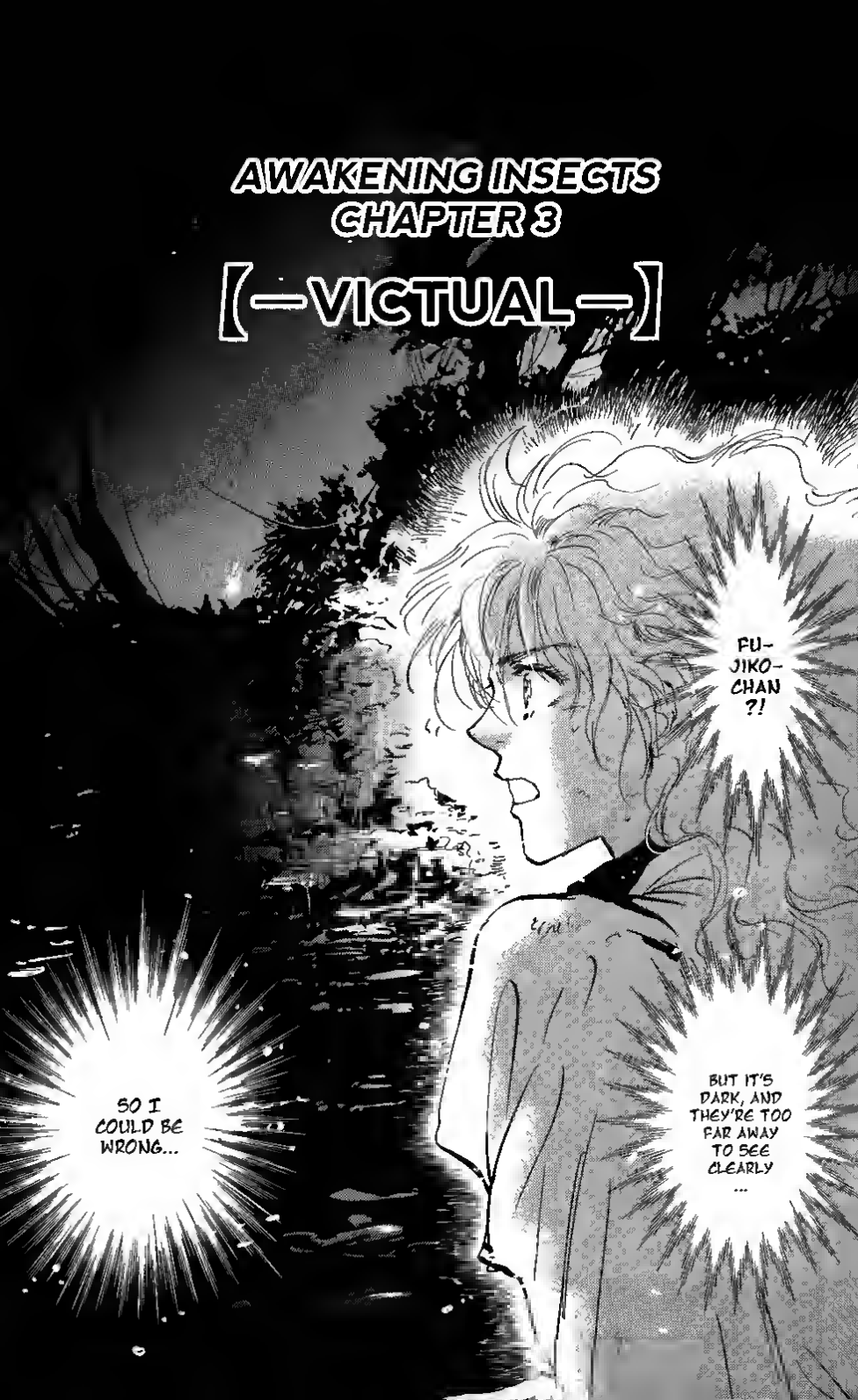
○ *Flowers Flower Comics α* ○

AWAKENING INSECTS
CHAPTER 3
【—VICTUAL—】



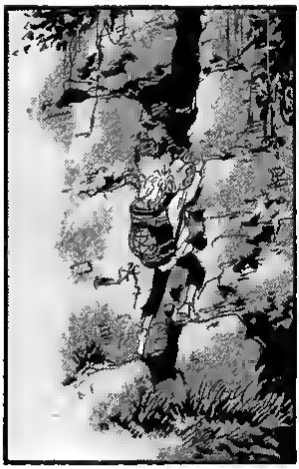
WHO ARE YOU ...
HEEEY !!
OVER THERE ?!
IS SHE ALIVE?!
ARE YOU FUJIKO-CHAN?!
IS SHE ALIVE?!
.....
WHO IS IT ?!
HEEEY!!
IS SHE ALIVE?!

YES, I'M FUJIKO!
...HANA-CHAN?!

IT'S HANA!
POSSI-BLY BE FUJIKO-CHAN?!
COULD YOU...

I'M ON THE ROCK LEDGE OPPOSITE YOU!
HOLD ON, I'LL HEAD OVER TO YOU!

WHERE ARE YOU ?!



IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DON'T FOLLOW ME..
JUST STAY UP HERE, KAY?
BECAUSE I'LL BE DANGEROUS DOWN THERE.
Though I don't think you can understand me.

IT'S DANGEROUS TO MOVE AROUND AT NIGHT
BUT I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL MORNING
IS THERE A BIT MORE MOONLIGHT THAN BEFORE THOUGH?
I can't make a torch from this wood either.

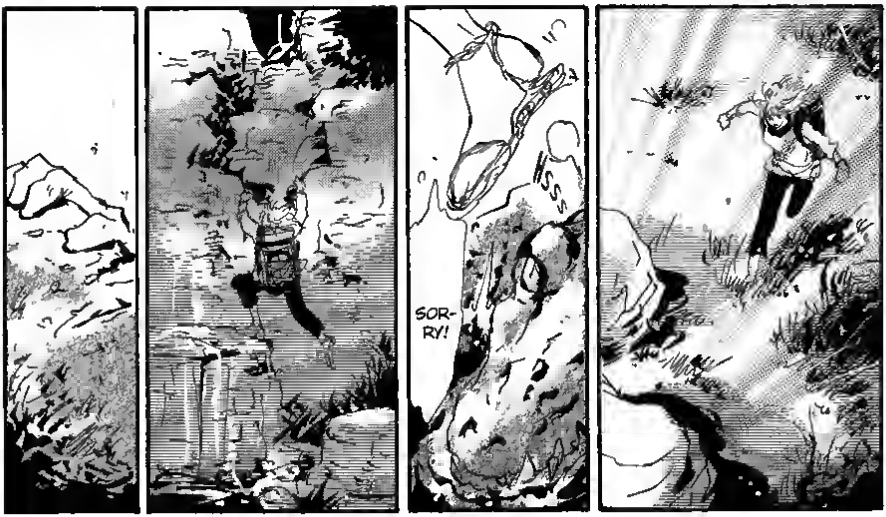
I DON'T KNOW IF ANYTHING'S HIDING OUT THERE OR NOT.
Splash
IT'S TOO DARK TO SEE WHERE I'M TREADING.

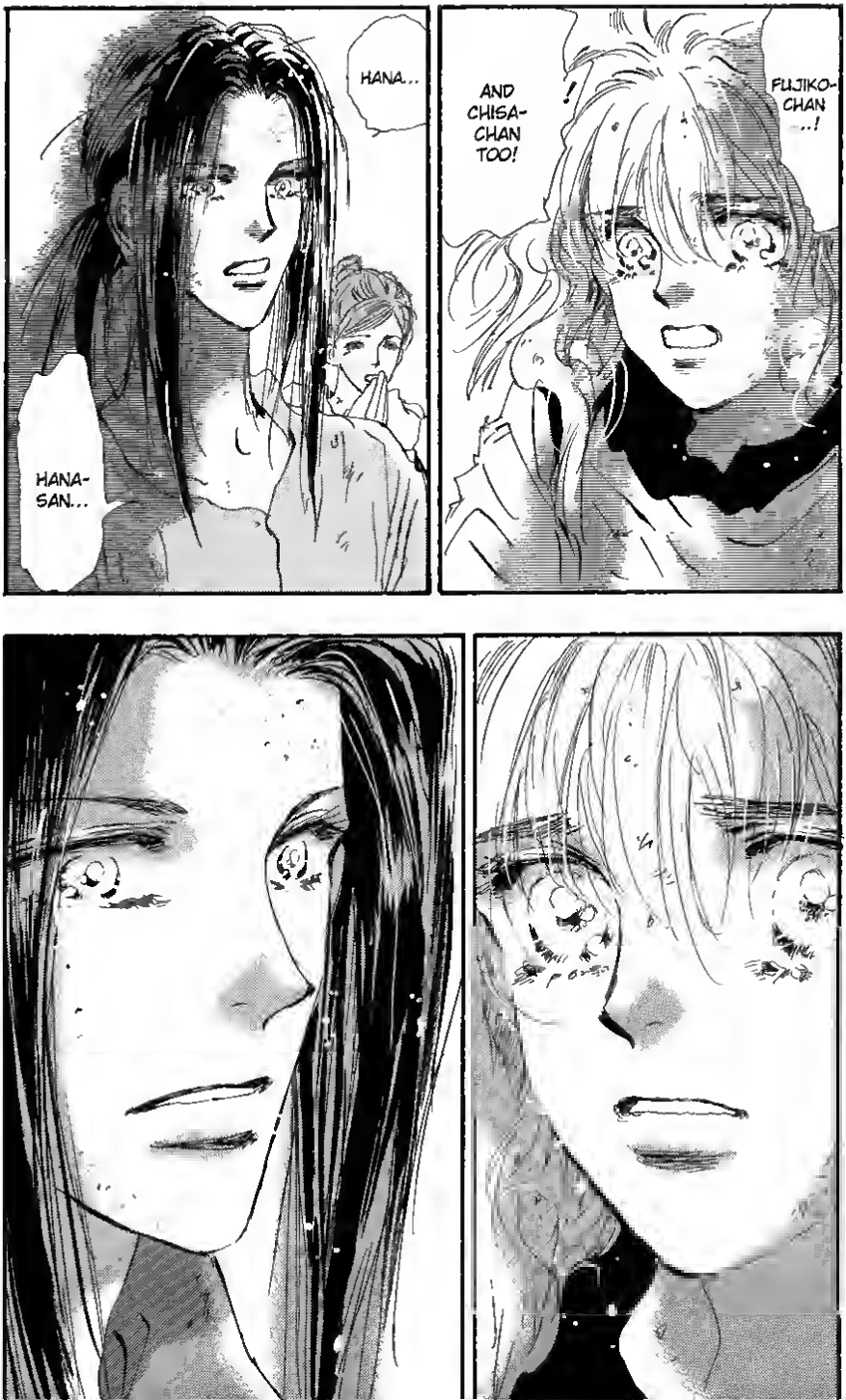
Haa
Haa
Haa

YOU'RE ALIVE...
Haa
Haa
Haa

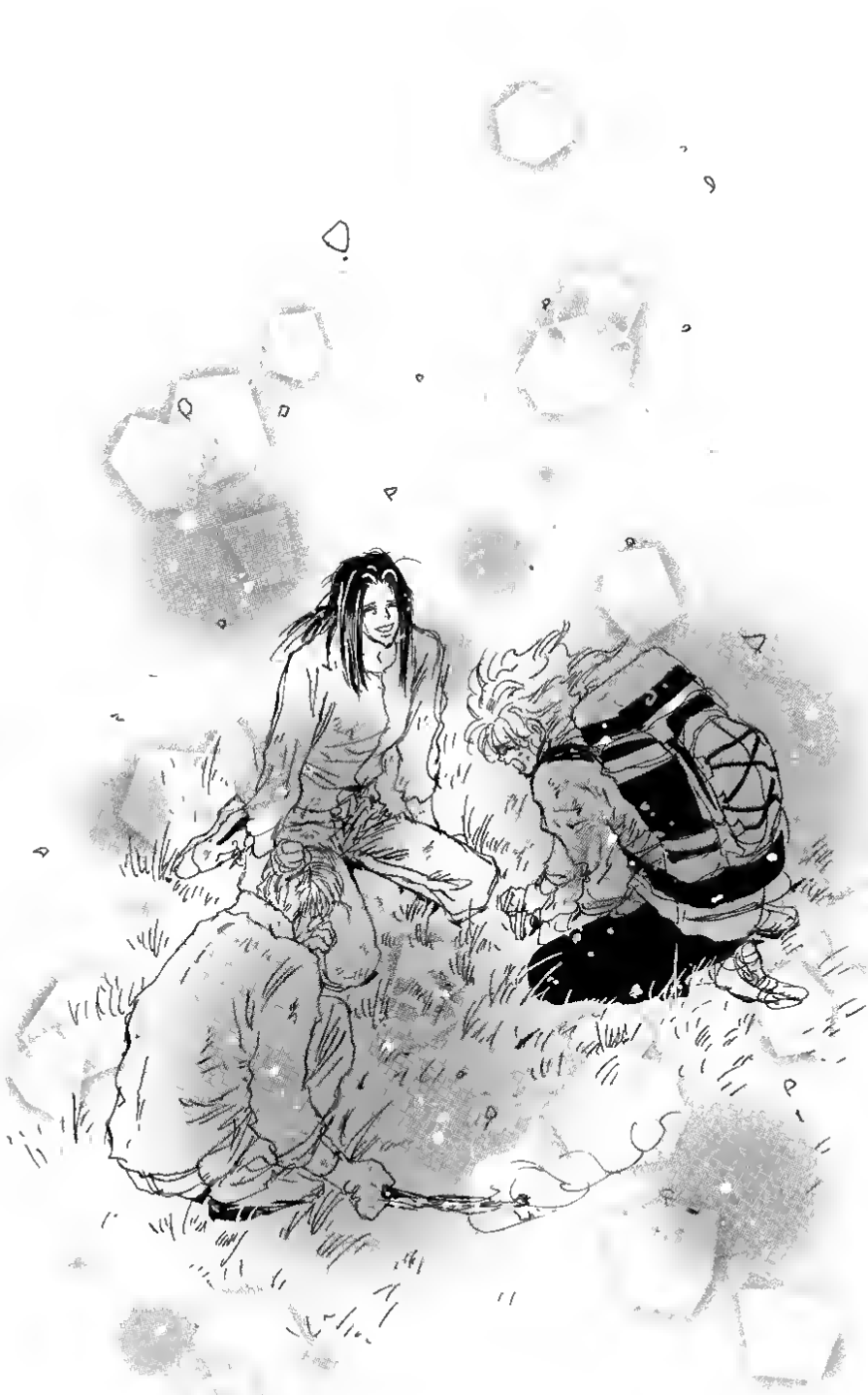
I'LL FOLLOW ALONG THE ROCK LEDGE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...
SO THAT I CAN AVOID THE WATER AS I MAKE MY WAY ACROSS.

MAYBE SHE'LL BE MAD AT ME...
MAYBE SHE'LL BE FED UP WITH ME.
I LEFT EVERY-ONE...
AND WENT OFF ON MY OWN WITHOUT ANY EXPLA-NATION.
YOU'RE ALIVE, FUJIKO-CHAN.
BUT...
WOAH!
MAYBE SHE'LL SAY, "WELL, WHAT DOES SOME-ONE LIKE YOU WANT AFTER ALL THIS TIME?"...
SLIP

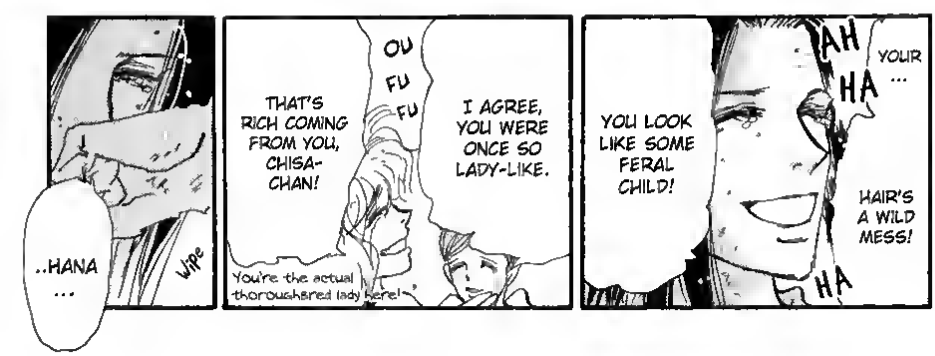

SOR-
RY!


HANA...
HANA-SAN...
FUJIKO-CHAN ...!
AND CHISA-CHAN TOO!

SO YOU'RE ALIVE ...

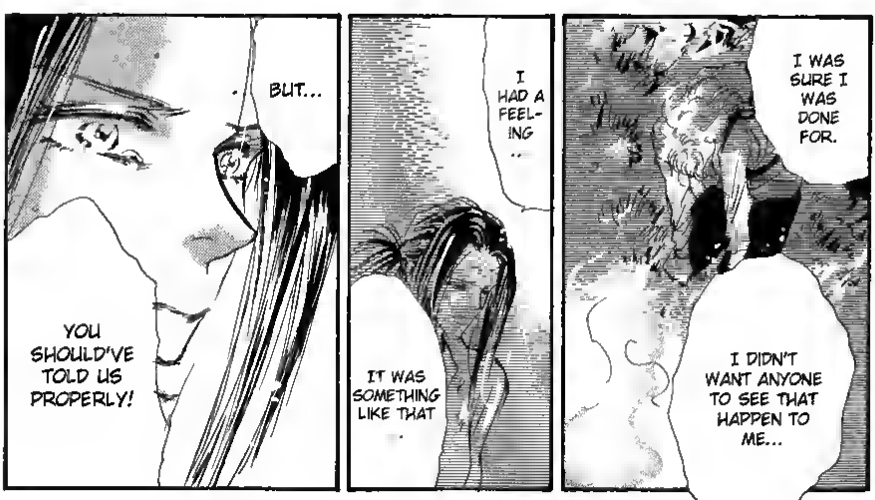


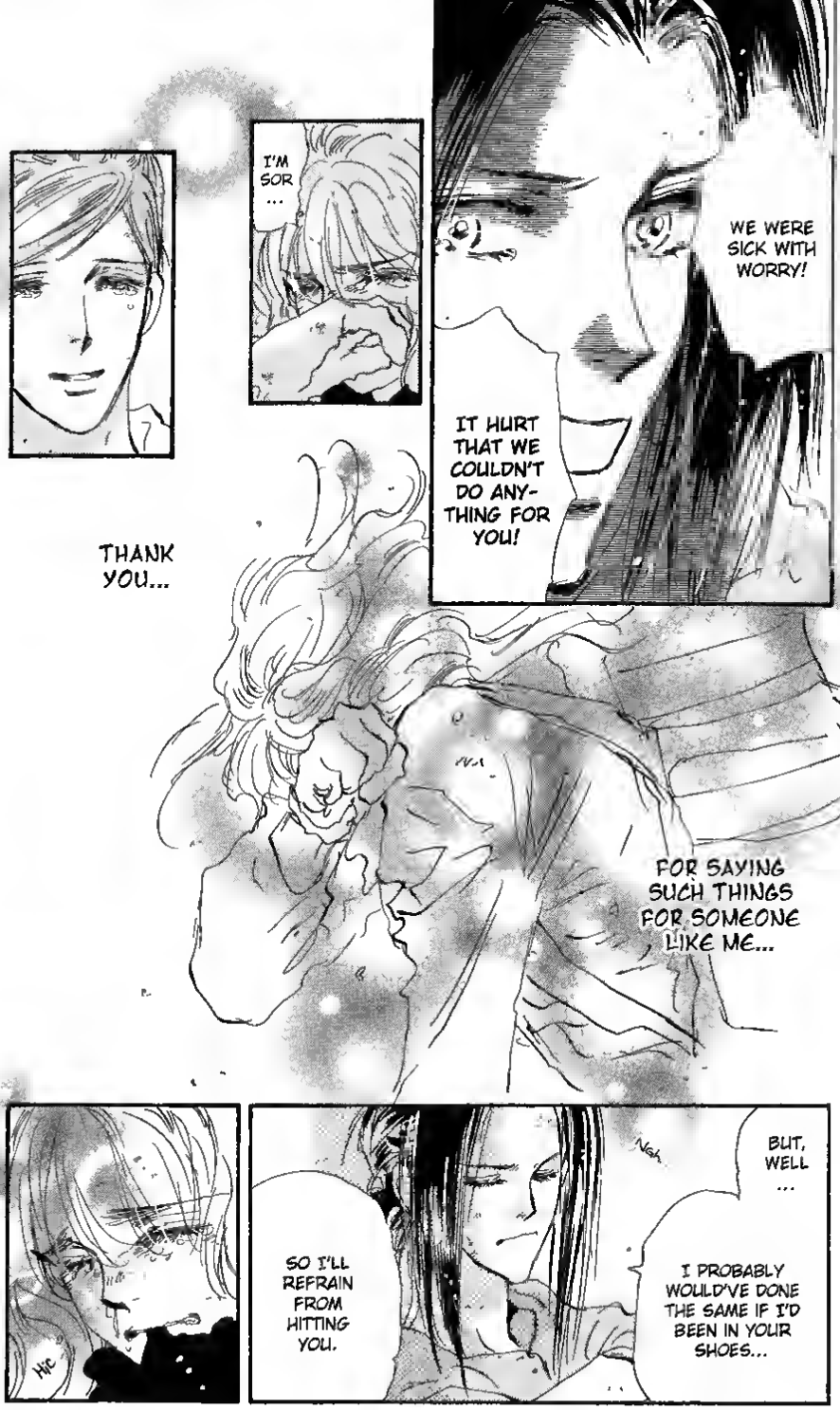
ALL OF A SUDDEN, I FELT SELF-CONSCIOUS.
THANK YOU...
I THOUGHT ABOUT EMBRACING THEM LIKE HOW A FOREIGNER WOULD
BUT...
FOR LEAVING ME THE LIGHTS ...
AND WHILE I PONDERED ALL THESE UNNECESSARY THINGS...
LIKE WHAT IF MY BODY SMELLS FUNNY .?
I REALISED ...
I WANTED TO SEE THEM AGAIN.
JUST HOW MUCH...

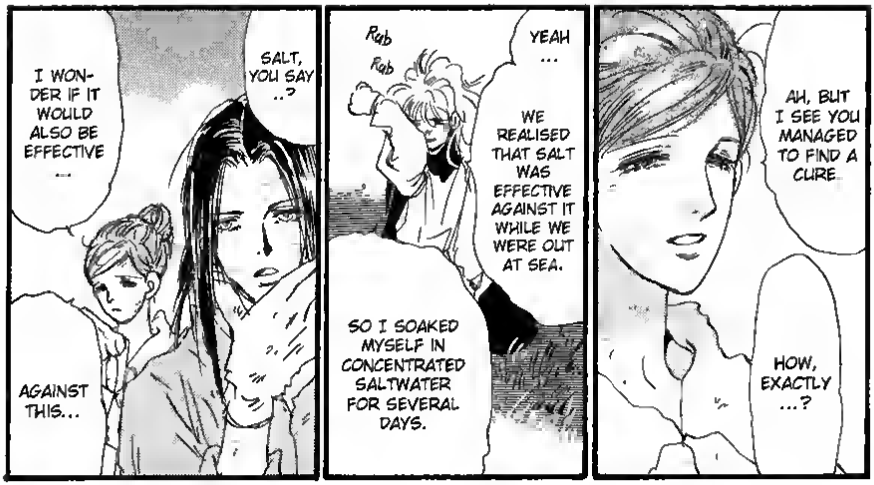

..HANA ...
Wipe
THAT'S RICH COMING FROM YOU, CHISA-CHAN!
OU FU FU
I AGREE, YOU WERE ONCE SO LADY-LIKE.
You're the actual thoroughbred lady here!
YOU LOOK LIKE SOME FERAL CHILD!
AH HA HA
YOUR ...
HAIR'S A WILD MESS!

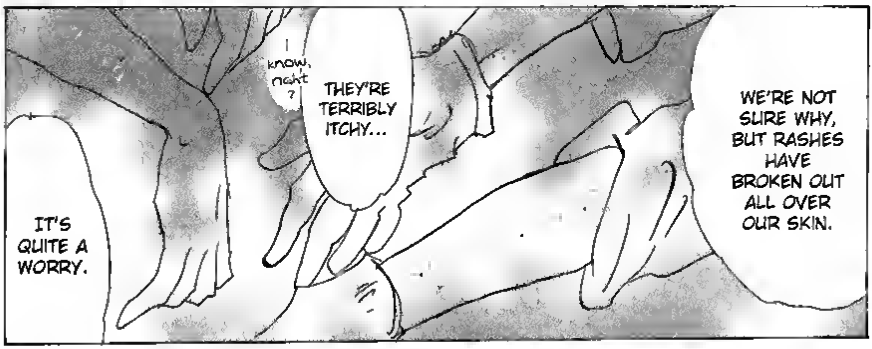
MY SKIN ...
BECAME COVERED IN VIOLET BOILS...
SNIFF
I THOUGHT I'D GIVE YOU A GOOD BEATING ...
IF I EVER SAW YOU AGAIN.
JUST WHAT HAPPENED ?

THAT ANYTHING THAT CAUGHT THE DISEASE WOULD SOON ROT AND FALL APART...
AND I HEARD FROM ARAMAKI-SAN...
IT RAPIDLY SPREAD ...

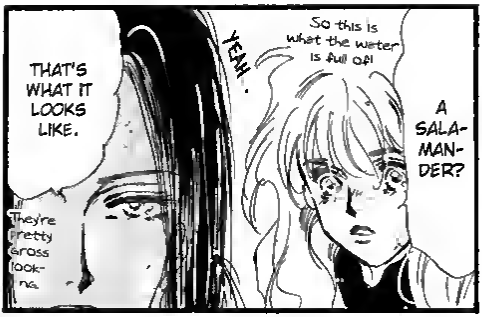

BUT...
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD US PROPERLY!
I HAD A FEELING ..
IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT .
I WAS SURE I WAS DONE FOR.
I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO SEE THAT HAPPEN TO ME...

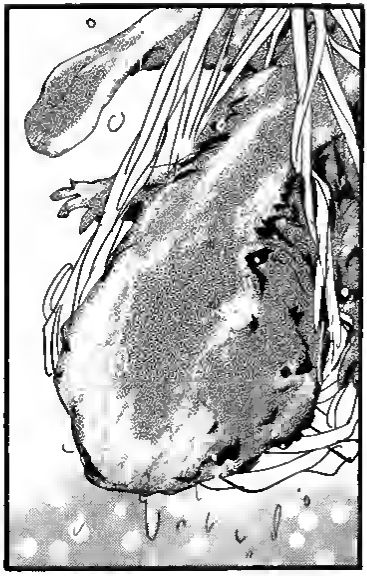

I'M SOR...
WE WERE SICK WITH WORRY!
IT HURT THAT WE COULDN'T DO ANY-THING FOR YOU!
THANK YOU...
FOR SAYING SUCH THINGS FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME...
Hic
SO I'LL REFRAIN FROM HITTING YOU.
Ngh
BUT, WELL...
I PROBABLY WOULD'VE DONE THE SAME IF I'D BEEN IN YOUR SHOES...


I WONDER IF IT WOULD ALSO BE EFFECTIVE ...
SALT, YOU SAY ..?
AGAINST THIS...
Rub Rub
YEAH ...
WE REALISED THAT SALT WAS EFFECTIVE AGAINST IT WHILE WE WERE OUT AT SEA.
SO I SOAKED MYSELF IN CONCENTRATED SALTWATER FOR SEVERAL DAYS.
AH, BUT I SEE YOU MANAGED TO FIND A CURE.
HOW, EXACTLY ...?


WE'RE NOT SURE WHY, BUT RASHES HAVE BROKEN OUT ALL OVER OUR SKIN.
I know, right?
THEY'RE TERRIBLY ITCHY...
IT'S QUITE A WORRY.

THE SAME THING ?
Uuuuh
YEAH, THIS STUFF.
SINCE WE'VE BEEN EATING THE SAME THING ALL THIS TIME.
No, it's all red
They haven't turned violet, right?
HUH?
Hmm...
MAYBE IT'S AN ALLERGIC REACTION TO SOME PLANT ...?
IT COULD BE WHAT WE'RE EATING TOO...


So this is what the water is full of!
YEAH.
A SALAMANDER?
THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.
They're pretty gross looking.



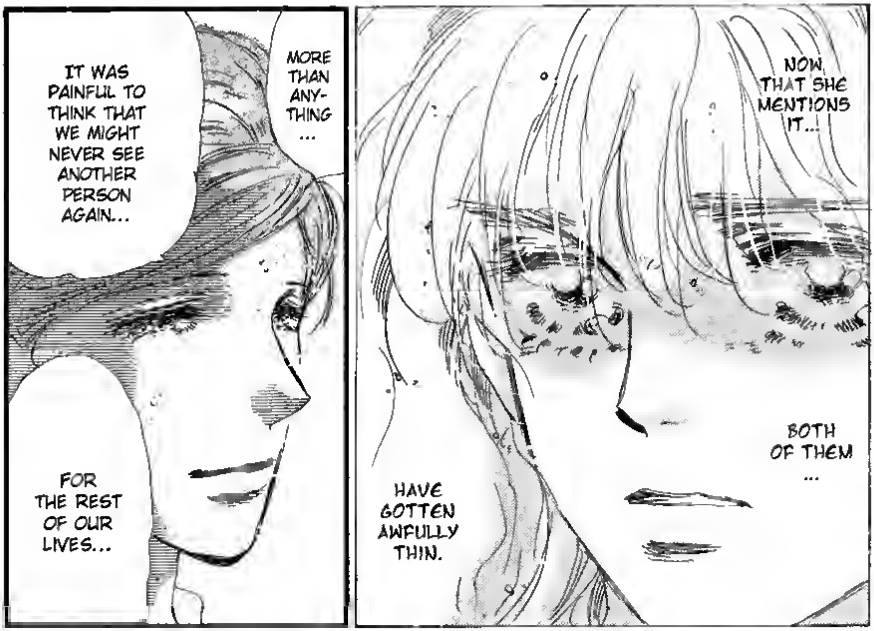
WE HAVEN'T HAD MUCH LUCK WITH ANY OTHER ANIMAL.
In fact if you just lower the basket they go on in by themselves.
THERE'S PLENTY OF THEM, AND ALL THEY DO IS SIT THERE, MAKING THEM EASY TO CATCH.

ALL RIGHT!
LET'S SAY WE ...
SHARE OUR TALES OVER DINNER!

WERE YOU ABLE TO MEET UP WITH HARU AND ARAMAKI-SAN?
YEAH.
I WAS WITH THEM NOT TOO LONG AGO...

YEAH ...
AH...
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US.
TSUNOMATA ISN'T WITH YOU GUYS?
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

IF YOU COULD DO THE COOKING?
CERTAINLY.
Hana-chan, come this way!
FUJIKO-SAN LOOKS HAPPY.
FOR SUCH A LONG TIME, SHE HAD LOST HER SPIRIT.
THE ONLY THING SHE DID EACH DAY WAS SEARCH FOR FOOD...
HER BODY ...
BEGAN TO WEAKEN AND THE RASHES APPEARED.
SHE HAD LOST ALL HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.


NOW THAT SHE MENTIONS IT...!
BOTH OF THEM ...
HAVE GOTTEN AWFULLY THIN.
MORE THAN ANYTHING ...
IT WAS PAINFUL TO THINK THAT WE MIGHT NEVER SEE ANOTHER PERSON AGAIN...
FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES...

Rub
I BELIEVE YOU'VE HELPED RAISE OUR SPIRITS.
WE WERE FINALLY ABLE TO MEET ANOTHER PERSON.
THAT'S WHY I'M GLAD...
AND THAT PERSON BEING HANA-SAN, NO LESS.
SALAMANDER HOTPOT!
Puff
Puff
YEAH, THOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE THAT SORT OF THING* MATTERS ANYMORE.
IS IT ALL COLLA-GEN?!
I just boiled chunks of it in water
Right?
Actually, it's mostly just water. It would be nice if there was more protein.
At a glance
IT'S AS IF THEY'RE ENTIRELY MADE OUT OF A GELATINE-LIKE SUB-STANCE.
THESE THINGS PRETTY MUCH HAVE NO FLESH AT ALL!
WOAH!
THAT'LL MAKE A GREAT SOUP BASE!
AND ...
LET'S ADD SOME SUN-DRIED SHRIMP AND SHELLFISH TOO.
But it is a little bit-ter
AH!
I HAVE SOME SEA SALT IF THAT'S OKAY.
So it's flavour-less!
OUR ROCK SALT RAN OUT QUITE SOME TIME AGO...

*T/N: Fujiko is referring to the fact that Japanese women believe that eating collagen infused foods is good for keeping your skin looking young and beautiful.

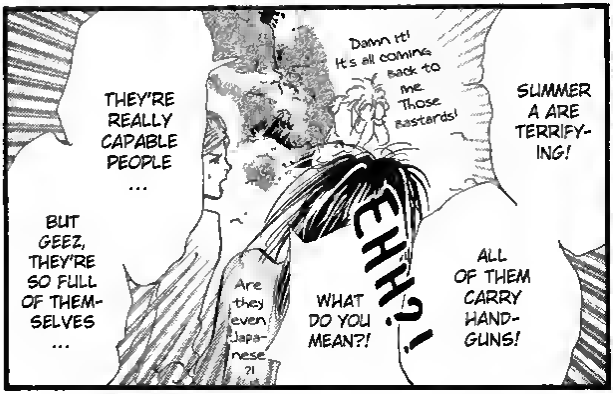
I WOULD LOVE TO EAT SOME REAL MEAT.
EITHER FISH OR POULTRY WOULD DO...
Sigh
Summer
WERE YOU ALONG THE COAST ALL THIS TIME?
NOPE, I'VE BEEN ALL OVER THE PLACE
I ONLY JUST RECENTLY RETURNED TO THE SHORE.
DID YOU SEE ANY REGULAR FISH?
NO...
But I did see stingrays and jellyfish.
AND VEGETABLES TOO.
WE'VE TOTALLY GIVEN UP ON THE RIDICULOUSLY HARD NUTS...
AND ROOTS FROM THE TREES IN THIS AREA.
I'd even love to have some carrots, which I used to hate!
VEGETABLES ...
WERE THINGS THAT PEOPLE PROPERLY CULTIVATED AND PRODUCED.
Even though I thought I understood before
IT ISN'T SOMETHING THAT GROWS NATURALLY.
THAT TRULY ...
IS THE CASE.
Scritch scratch
AFTER COMING HERE, THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE KEENLY COME TO REALISE..

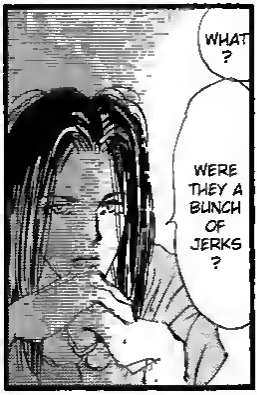
Let's eat!
The salamander sure has an interesting texture.
This is delicious!
It must be the prawn stock, after all, and the salt of course.
THAT SURE HIT THE SPOT! Thank you for the food!
THAT WOULD BE A WASTE.
LET'S EAT IT INSTEAD.
For dessert
I HAVE THIS ALOE-LIKE PLANT ...
WANT TO TRY APPLYING IT TO YOUR RASHES?
It might work.
It was all along the way here.
SO...
CHISA-CHAN AND I WENT DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS...
TO COLLECT ROCK SALT AND FIREWOOD.
THAT WAS WHEN THE FLOOD HAPPENED.
EVERYTHING WAS A MESS ...
THE WAY THINGS WERE, ALL WE COULD DO WAS GET AWAY...
AND EVEN THAT WAS A FEAT.
THE TERRAIN CHANGED DRASTICALLY...
AND WE COULDN'T FIND OUR WAY BACK TO WHERE WE ORIGINALLY CAME FROM.
LUCKILY WE HAD OUR BELONGINGS WITH US ...
SO WE CARRIED ON LIKE THAT, ROAMING FROM PLACE TO PLACE...
OUR JOURNEY BECAME ONE LED BY OUR NEED TO FIND FOOD ...
WHEN THE DRY SEASON BEGAN, IT WAS TO FIND WATER.

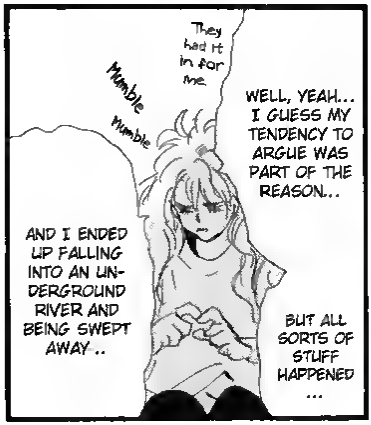
THE WEST WAS COVERED IN VOLCANIC ASH AND IT TURNED EVERYTHING PITCH BLACK.
WE TRAVEL-LED...
TO THE WEST.
I think it's been about two to three months since then?
FINALLY, WE SETTLED DOWN HERE.
YEAH.
THEN WE DECIDED TO RETURN EAST TOGETHER AND JOIN UP WITH YOU AND THE OTHERS.
YOU MET ANOTHER TEAM?!
AUTUMN?!
AND EN-COUNTER-ED TEAM AUTUMN...
WE FOUND A SHELTER...
AH!
REALLY?!
What a relief! You saw him?!
Yeah.
SUMMER A PICKED HIM UP.
NOBITA IS FINE TOO!
Although he did get injured a bit.
I'M SO GLAD THEY'RE OKAY...
I RE-GRETTED MY AC-TIONS
SO...
BUT EVERYTHING WAS GONE BY THE TIME WE CAME...
The house and the fields
EVERY-ONE WAS WASHED AWAY, AFTER ALL.

...DAMN, I FINALLY REMEMBERED.
THOSE TWO TRIED TO KILL ME.

YEAH ...
SUMMER A?!
WE ENDED UP MERGING WITH AUTUMN AND SUMMER A...
AND BEGAN LIVING TOGETHER...


THEY'RE REALLY CAPABLE PEOPLE ...
BUT GEEZ, THEY'RE SO FULL OF THEMSELVES ...
Are they even Japanese?!
Damn it! It's all coming back to me. Those bastards!
EHH?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
ALL OF THEM CARRY HANDGUNS!
SUMMER A ARE TERRIFYING!

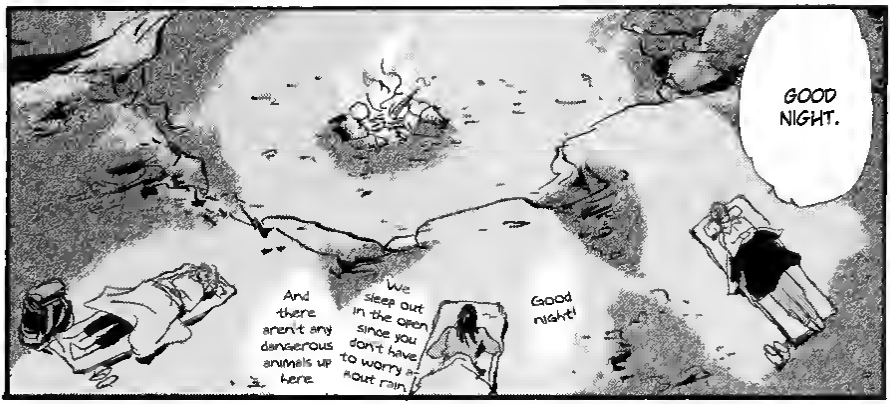

WHAT?
WERE THEY A BUNCH OF JERKS?

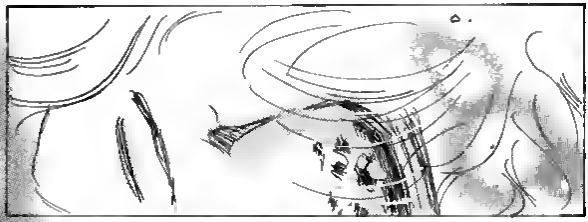

They had it in for me.
Mumble mumble
WELL, YEAH... I GUESS MY TENDENCY TO ARGUE WAS PART OF THE REASON...
AND I ENDED UP FALLING INTO AN UNDERGROUND RIVER AND BEING SWEPT AWAY..
BUT ALL SORTS OF STUFF HAPPENED ...

HOW DID YOU KNOW?
IT'S PRETTY OBVIOUS.

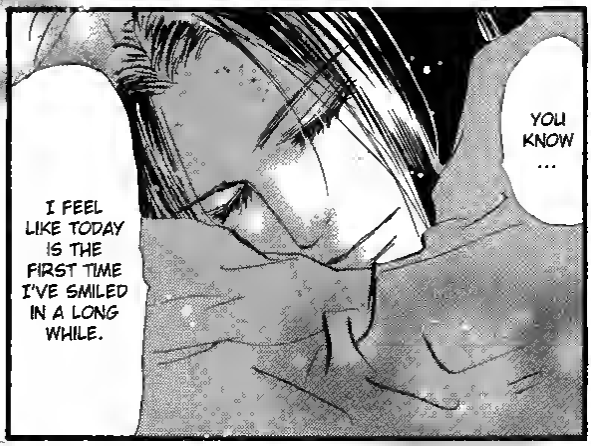
YOU ...
MUST'VE CLASHED WITH THEM HEAD ON, RIGHT?

TEAM AUTUMN IS FULL OF STRONG, DEPENDABLE PEOPLE WHO AREN'T ABOUT TO BE PUSHED AROUND...
HARU HAS BEEN TRYING HIS VERY BEST TOO...
Aramaki-san is with them too
SO I THINK THEY'LL BE FINE.
THEN, DOESN'T THAT MEAN HARU AND THE OTHERS ARE STILL WITH SUMMER A...?
HOW WORRYING.
WHEN I CAME TO, I WAS BY MYSELF ON THE SHORE ...
Mumble Mumble
SOMEHOW, THAT SOUNDS SO LIKE YOU...
OH, THAT'S RIGHT! HARU FOUND A GIRLFRIEND!
WHAAAAT?!
oh my!
HOW AUDACIOUS!
And she's totally cute too!
"BE CAREFUL NOT TO CONTAMINATE THE WATER SOURCE" ...
THAT WAS A CAMPING FUNDAMENTAL YOU TAUGHT ME, HANA-CHAN.
BUT YOU'LL NEED TO DIG A HOLE.
AND THE TOILET IS IN THERE ...
Shhhh
Well you can wash all sorts of things in this water
but laundry is the lowest priority
YOU CAN WASH YOUR FACE OVER THERE..


GOOD NIGHT.
Good night!
We sleep out in the open since you don't have to worry about rain.
And there aren't any dangerous animals up here.



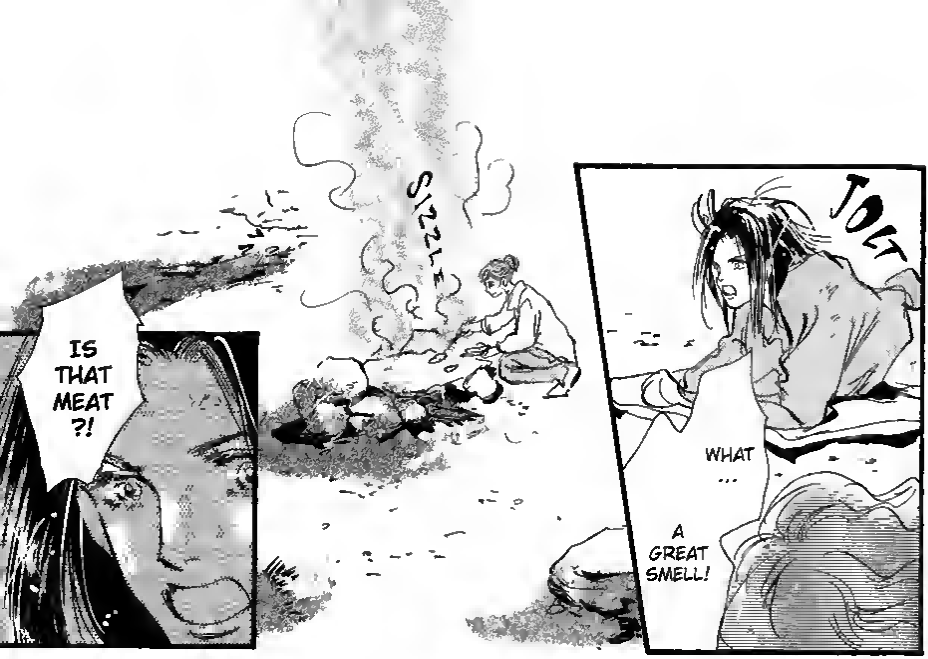
GOOD NIGHT!
CHISA-CHAN IS STILL EARLY TO SLEEP, EARLY TO RISE.
Whereas I'm still late to sleep, late to rise

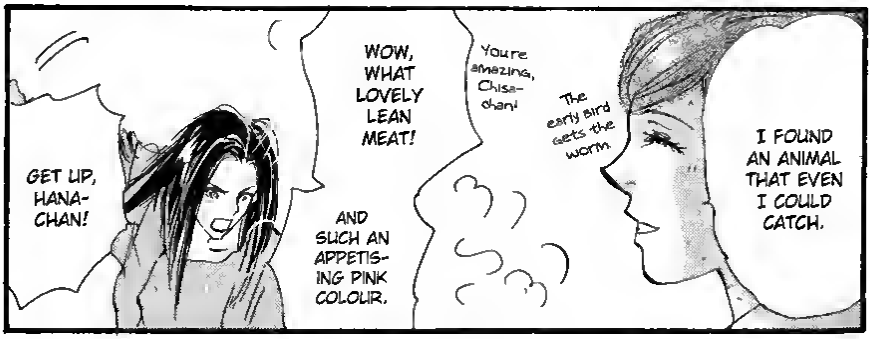

I FEEL LIKE TODAY IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SMILED IN A LONG WHILE.
YOU KNOW ...

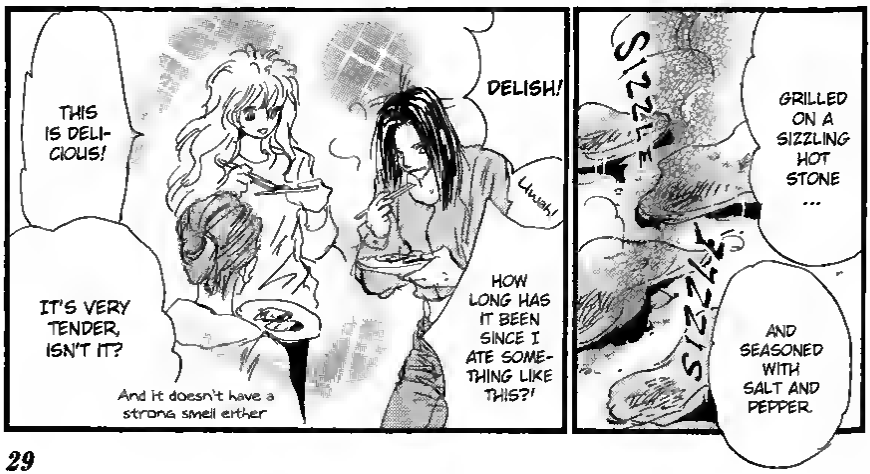
I THINK I ONLY MANAGED TO CARRY ON LIVING TILL NOW BECAUSE OF CHISA-CHAN'S DETERMINATION...
TO HAVE A PROPER LIFESTYLE HERE.

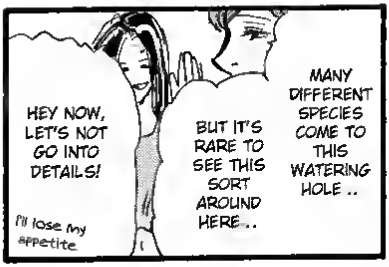
I COULD SEE YOU AGAIN.
I'M SO GLAD...

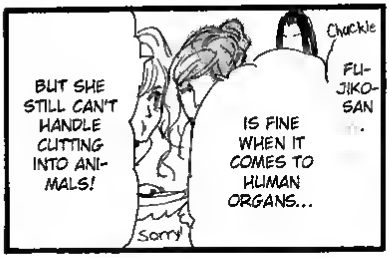
GOOD NIGHT, CHISA-CHAN.
GOOD NIGHT, FUJIKO-CHAN.
SHHHH
CROAK
CROAK
CHIRP
CHIRP
GOOD NIGHT, EVERY-ONE.
SHHH
I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW REASSURING IT WOULD'VE BEEN...
IF THESE TWO HAD BEEN THERE FOR ME...
GOOD NIGHT, HANA.
WHEN I WAS WITH TEAM AUTUMN AND SUMMER A.
GOOD NIGHT, FUJIKO-CHAN.


SIZZLE
IS THAT MEAT ?!
JOLT
WHAT ...
A GREAT SMELL!

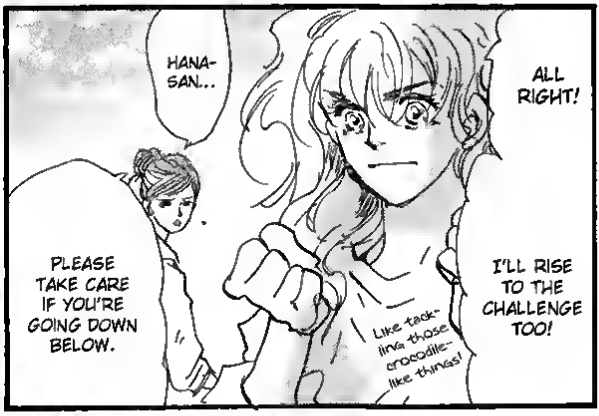

GET UP, HANA-CHAN!
WOW, WHAT LOVELY LEAN MEAT!
AND SUCH AN APPETIS-ING PINK COLOUR.
You're amazing, Chisa-chan!
The early bird gets the worm.
I FOUND AN ANIMAL THAT EVEN I COULD CATCH.


THIS IS DELI-CIOUS!
IT'S VERY TENDER, ISN'T IT?
And it doesn't have a strong smell either
DELISH!
Uuuuh!
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE I ATE SOME-THING LIKE THIS?!
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
GRILLED ON A SIZZLING HOT STONE ...
AND SEASONED WITH SALT AND PEPPER.


HEY NOW, LET'S NOT GO INTO DETAILS!
I'll lose my appetite
BUT IT'S RARE TO SEE THIS SORT AROUND HERE..
MANY DIFFERENT SPECIES COME TO THIS WATERING HOLE ..

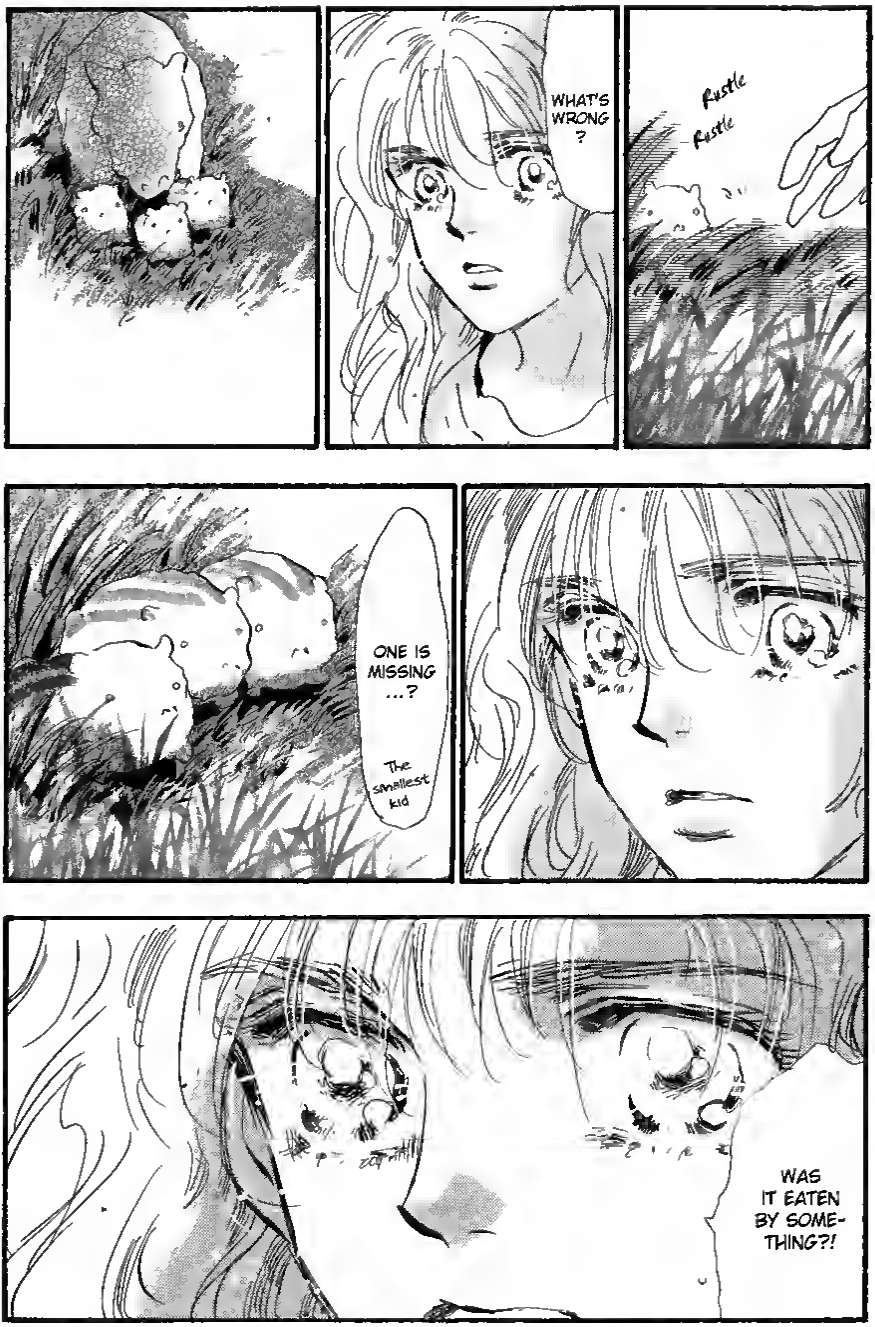


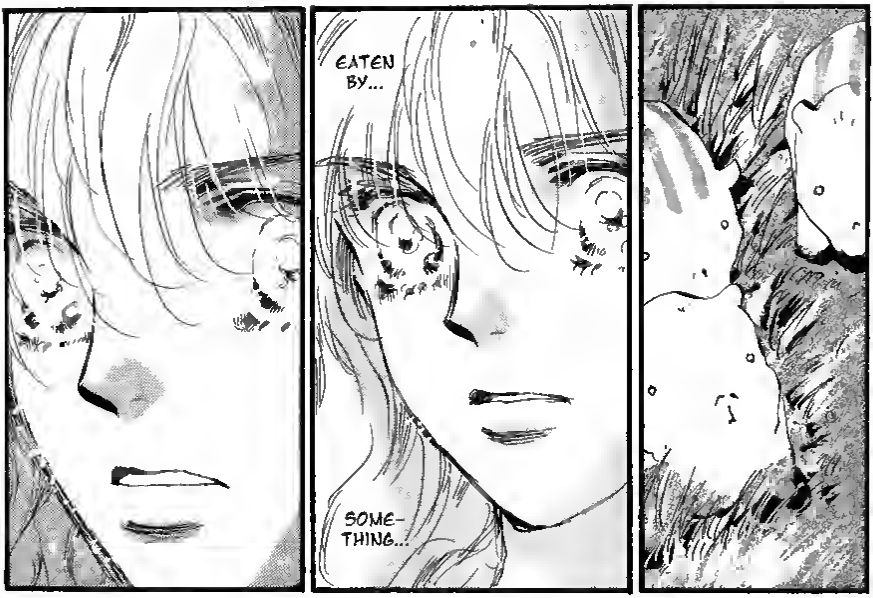
They need time to dry out, after all
I'LL START TODAY OFF BY GATHERING FIREWOOD!
THANKS, CHISA-CHAN!
I'M FEELING ON TOP OF THE WORLD!
UNNGH!


HANA-SAN...
PLEASE TAKE CARE IF YOU'RE GOING DOWN BELOW.
Like tackling those crocodile-like things!
I'LL RISE TO THE CHALLENGE TOO!
ALL RIGHT!

*T/N: Kashiwa-mochi is pounded rice cake filled with sweet red beans and wrapped in oak leaves. It is traditionally served on Children's Day in Japan, and appears to resemble that tree's attack.

BUT THANKS TO THIS TRE...
THE WATERING HOLE HERE IS ABLE TO LAST WITHOUT EVAPORATING
IT MAINTAINS THE BALANCE OF THIS ECO-SYSTEM...
Rustle
I WONDER IF I SHOULD MAKE ANOTHER BOOMERANG...
I COULD USE THIS ROPE TOO.
I had Chisa-chan describe that animal we ate to me, so I'll be on the look-out for it too.
SINCE IT'S BEEN SOAKED IN SEAWATER, I WOULDN'T TRUST IT TO SUPPORT MY WEIGHT ANYMORE ...
BUT I CAN STILL USE IT AS A LASSO!
YOU GUYS!
YOU CROSSED OVER TO THIS SIDE ?!
IT'S DANGEROUS TO RUN ABOUT DOWN HERE!
JERK


WHAT'S WRONG ?
Rustle
Rustle
ONE IS MISSING ...?
The smallest kid
WAS IT EATEN BY SOME-THING?!

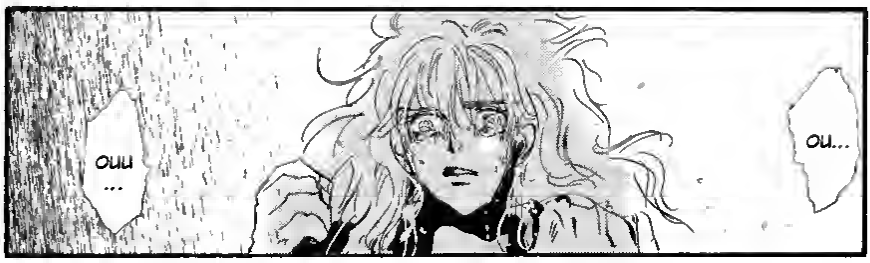

EATEN BY...
SOME-THING...

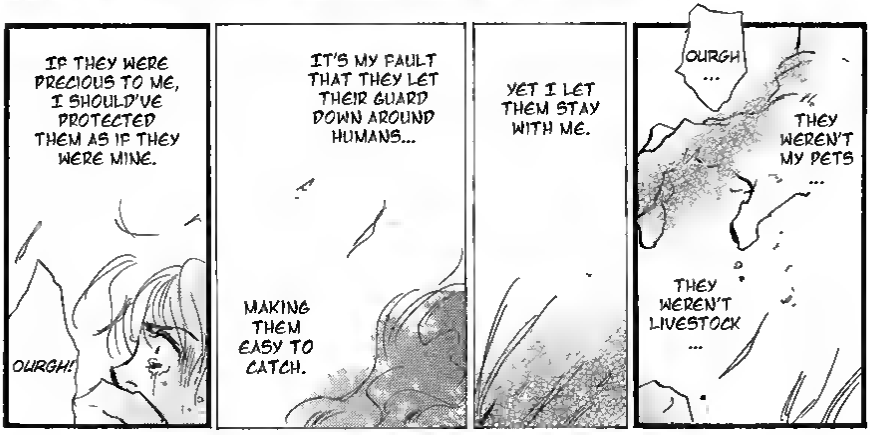
GROW

I FOUND AN ANIMAL THAT EVEN I COULD CATCH.
NO ...!
I DIDN'T ...
NO...

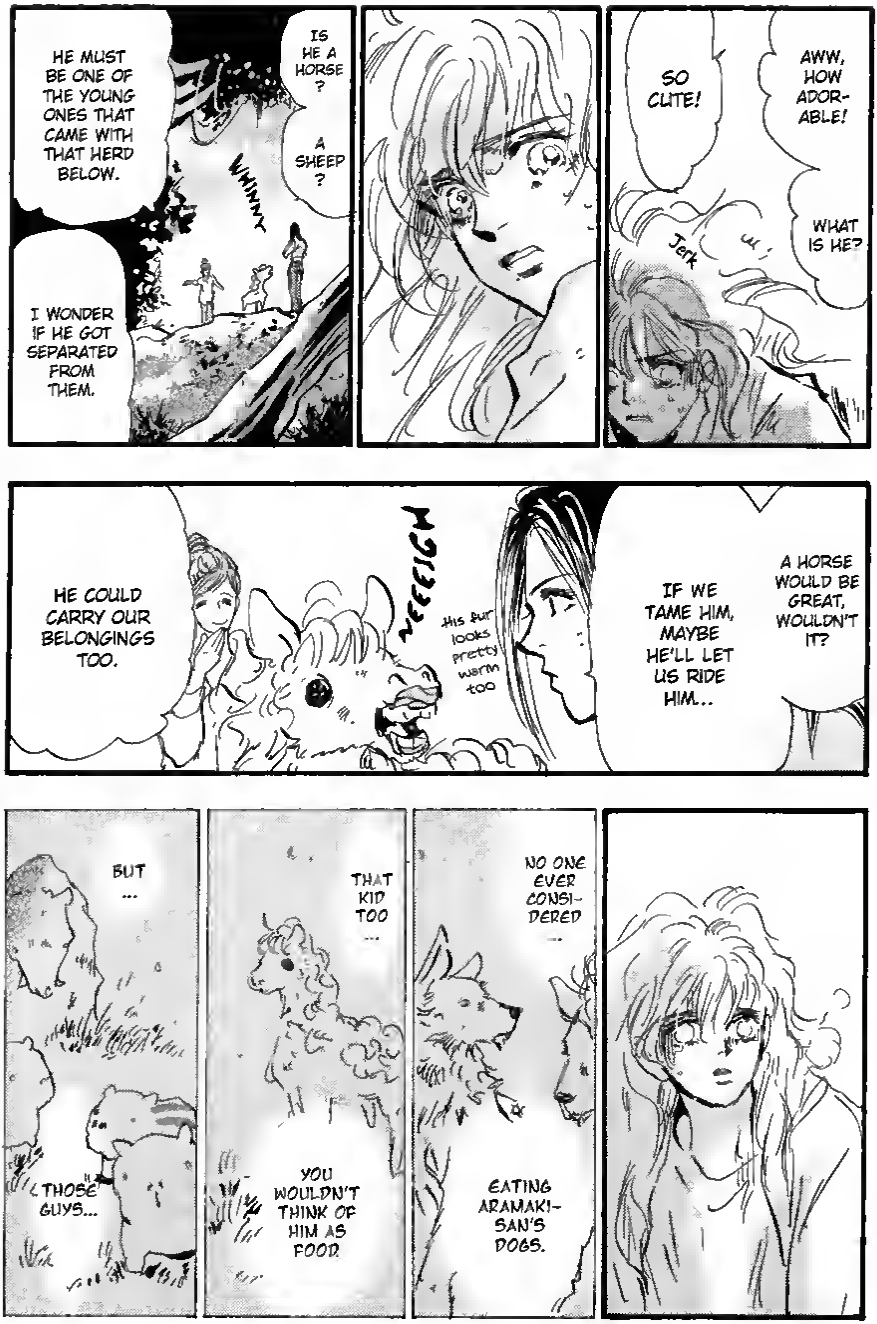
I SAW ..
A FEW MORE RUNNING ABOUT.
GR
IP
GO!
RUN FAR AWAY!
TH
OINK
UD
HURRY!

THUD
THUD
THUD
DON'T EVER COME NEAR ME AGAIN !!
scamper scamper

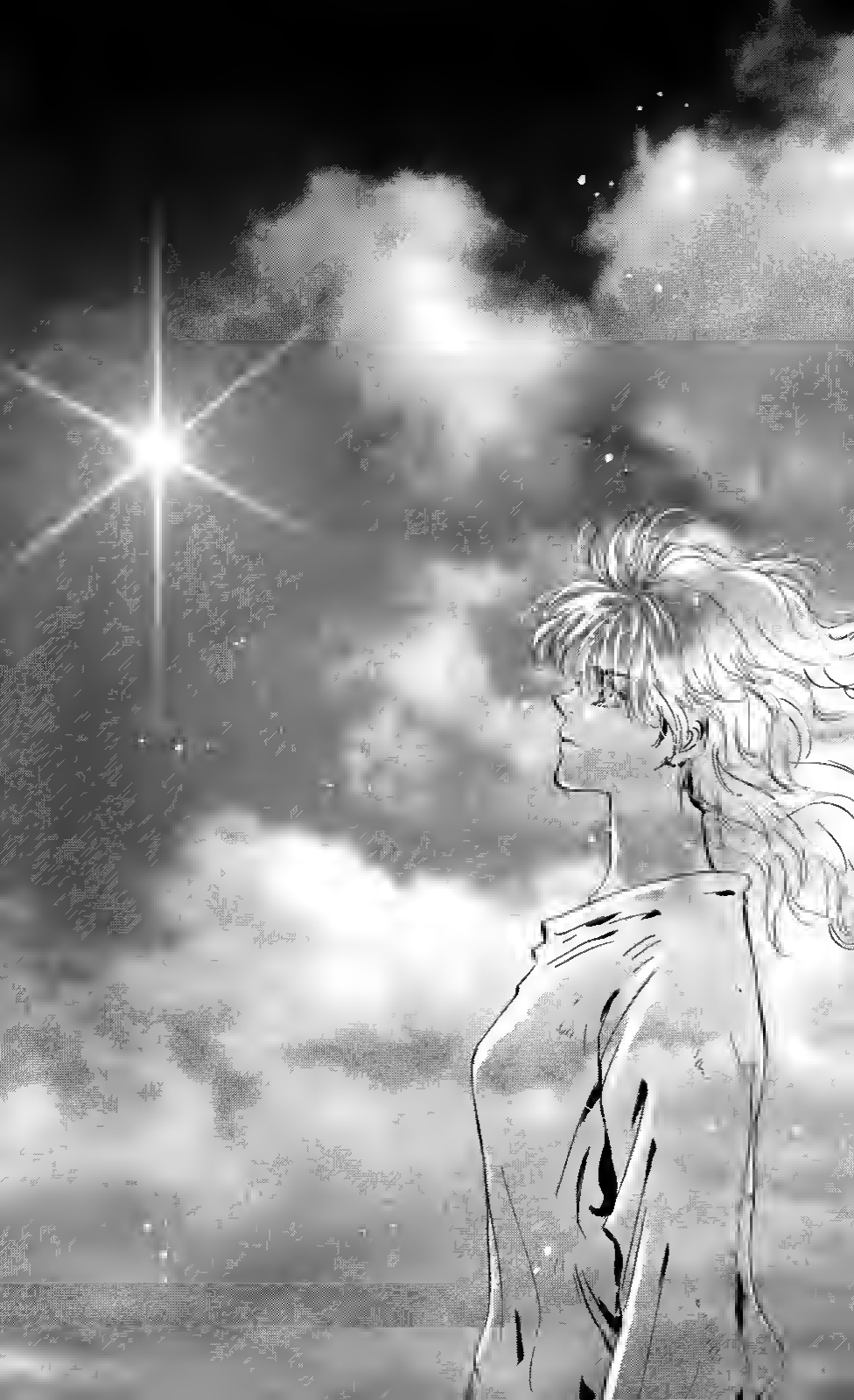

OUU ...
OU...

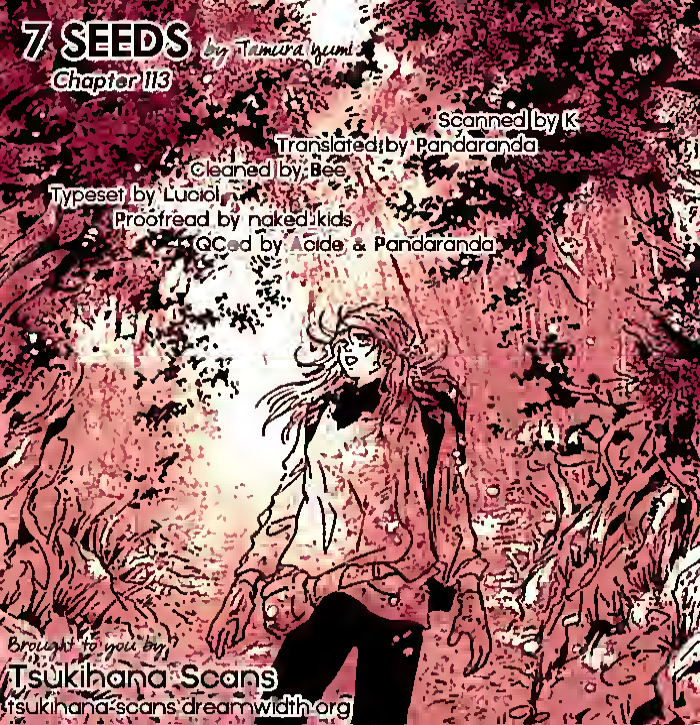

IF THEY WERE PRECIOUS TO ME, I SHOULD'VE PROTECTED THEM AS IF THEY WERE MINE.
OURGH!
IT'S MY FAULT THAT THEY LET THEIR GUARD DOWN AROUND HUMANS...
MAKING THEM EASY TO CATCH.
YET I LET THEM STAY WITH ME.
OURGH ...
THEY WEREN'T MY PETS ...
THEY WEREN'T LIVESTOCK ...

DON'T THROW UP!!
ALL BECAUSE I LACKED RESOLVE !!
I ATE IT...
I'VE ALREADY EATEN IT.
BLURGH !!
LET IT NOURISH ME!


HE MUST BE ONE OF THE YOUNG ONES THAT CAME WITH THAT HERD BELOW.
IS HE A HORSE?
A SHEEP?
WHINNY
I WONDER IF HE GOT SEPARATED FROM THEM.
AWW, HOW ADOR-ABLE!
SO CUTE!
WHAT IS HE?
Jerk
HE COULD CARRY OUR BELONGINGS TOO.
NEEIGH
His fur looks pretty warm too
IF WE TAME HIM, MAYBE HE'LL LET US RIDE HIM...
A HORSE WOULD BE GREAT, WOULDN'T IT?
BUT ...
THOSE GUYS...
THAT KID TOO ...
YOU WOULDN'T THINK OF HIM AS FOOD
NO ONE EVER CONSI-DERED ...
EATING ARAMAKI-SAN'S DOGS.

I'M GLAD ...
I DIDN'T ...
NAME THEM ...
PERHAPS THEY WERE ONCE MY FRIENDS ...
BUT THAT TIME HAS PASSED.
THIS IS HOW IT SHOULD BE...
WAS WHAT I THOUGHT.




7 SEEDS
by Tamura Yumi
Chapter 113
Scanned by K
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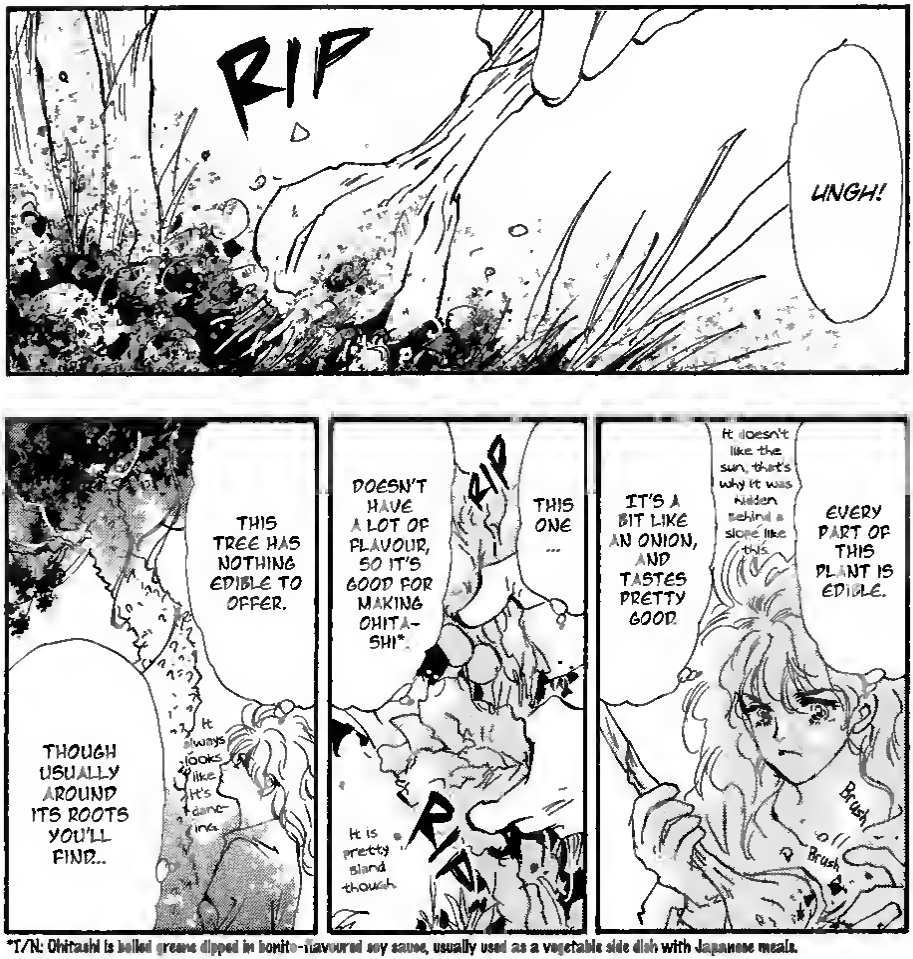
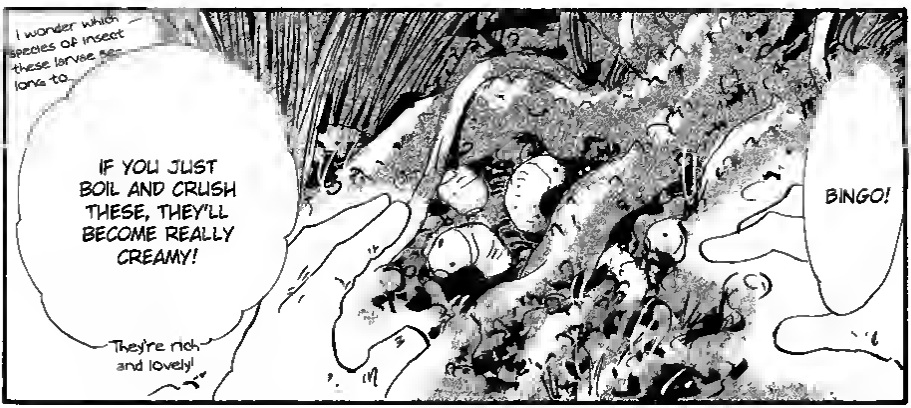
AWAKENING INSECTS
CHAPTER 4
【— FEAST —】
LIVING WITH SUMMER A...
HAD ITS BENEFITS.
AH!
THERE IT IS, FOUND IT!


RIP
UNGH!
THIS TREE HAS NOTHING EDIBLE TO OFFER.
THOUGH USUALLY AROUND ITS ROOTS YOU'LL FIND...
It always looks like it's dancing.
DOESN'T HAVE A LOT OF FLAVOUR, SO IT'S GOOD FOR MAKING OHITA-SHI*.
THIS ONE ...
RIP
RIP
It is pretty bland though.
IT'S A BIT LIKE AN ONION, AND TASTES PRETTY GOOD.
It doesn't like the sun, that's why it was hidden behind a slope like this.
EVERY PART OF THIS PLANT IS EDIBLE.
Brush
Brush

*T/N: Ohitashi is boiled greens dipped in bonito-flavoured soy sauce, usually used as a vegetable side dish with Japanese meals.


I wonder which species of insect these larvae belong to...
IF YOU JUST BOIL AND CRUSH THESE, THEY'LL BECOME REALLY CREAMY!
They're rich and lovely!
BINGO!

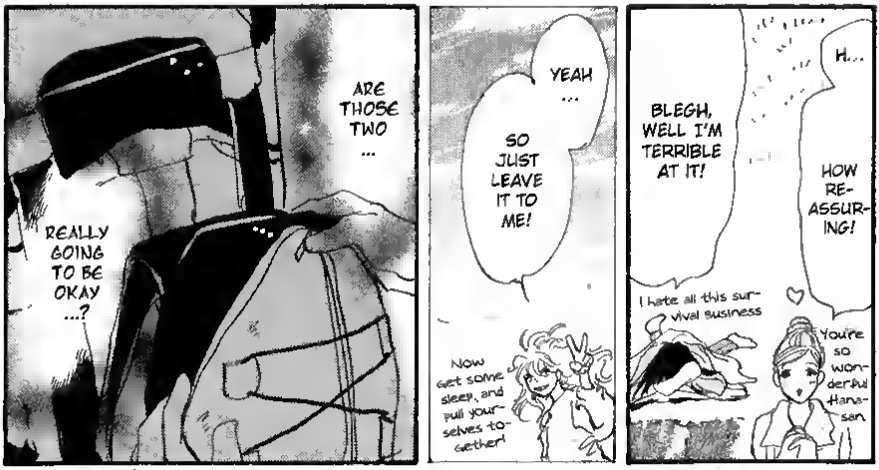
TEAM SUMMER A MANAGED TO MAKE THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN WHAT IS AND ISN'T EDIBLE...
AS WELL AS DETERMINING THE USES OF MANY DIFFERENT THINGS
THROUGH EXTENSIVE RESEARCH
This is a good find.
THIS CAN BE ...
MIXED WITH SALT TO MAKE TOOTH-PASTE.
WHINNY
WHINNY
WHINNY
IT WASN'T JUST A TEMPORARY MEASURE
THEY DID SUCH THINGS WITH THE INTENTION OF LIVING HERE.
Easy does it.
I RESPECT THEM FOR THIS SORT OF THING.
I CAN HONESTLY SAY ...
YOU REALLY SHOULD RETURN TO YOUR HERD!
ROAR!
Sooner or later I'm going to take you back after I know the coast is clear

HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG, FUJIKO-CHAN?
Ba-Dumm
Huff
Huff
HMM...
I KINDA ...
FEEL A LITTLE FEVER-ISH?
EH?
WAS IT ALL OF A SUDDEN ?
IS IT A COLD?
I'M FINE, I'M FINE!
WAS IT SOMETHING YOU ATE?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT, SO JUST REST.
We're gonna run out soon
I HAVE TO GATHER THE FIRE-WOOD.
AWW BUT...
PLEASE GET SOME REST, FUJIKO-SAN.

SINCE SHE WAS ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, HANA-SAN.
IT'S PROBA-BLY...
She was eating like a pig just this morn-ing
I WONDER IF SHE REALLY IS ALL RIGHT . .
JUST THE RELIEF.
IN BOTH MIND AND BODY.
WE WERE ALREADY AT THE END OF OUR WITS...
ALL THIS TIME, WE'D BEEN EXERTING OURSELVES ...
YOU NEVER HEAR HER UTTER A WORD OF COMPLAINT, RIGHT?
Although she does tend to grumble a bit
BUT FUJIKO-SAN HAS A STRONG...
SENSE OF RESPONSI-BILITY.

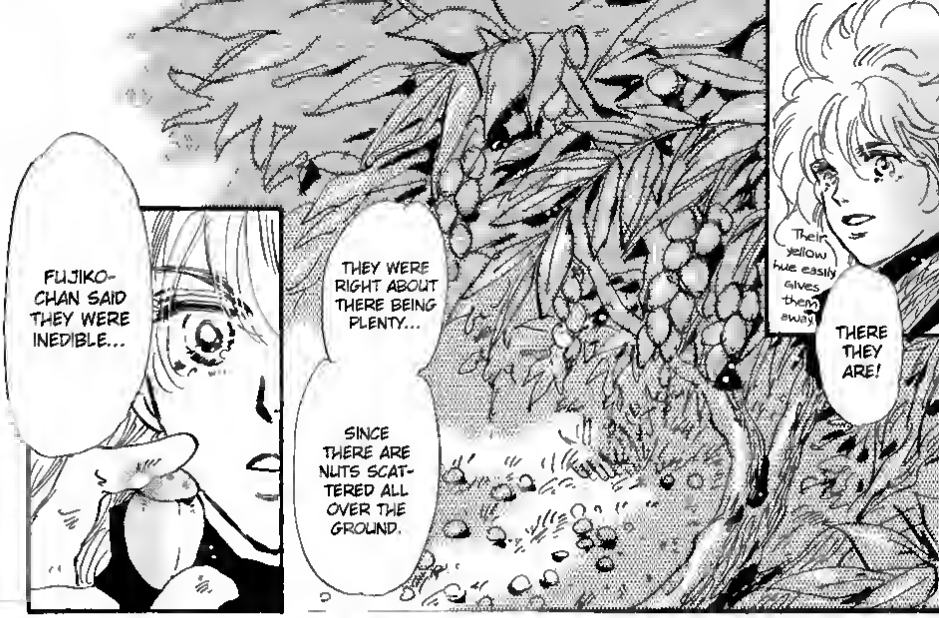
I'm gonna come check on you later, so you better watch out if you're still awake!
STOP TALKING AND GET TO SLEEP!
Oh my, you could hear me?
I'M NOT THAT MUCH OF A SAINT!
SHE WAS THINKING OF MY SAKE TOO...
LIKE MAKING AN EFFORT TO KEEP ME SAFE.
I THINK ALL THAT PENT UP TENSION JUST RUSHED OUT IN AN INSTANT.
TRULY BRINGS US RELIEF.
AND HAVING YOU SAY SUCH THINGS FOR OUR SAKES
SEE WHAT I MEAN? BEING ABLE TO SEE YOU AGAIN...
YOU NEED TO GET SOME REST TOO, CHISA-CHAN!
EVEN I AM FEELING A LITTLE FAINT ON MY FEET.
Do you have a headache? Stiff shoulders? Hip pain? Sore muscles?
DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS SO CALMLY WHEN YOU'RE SUFFERING YOURSELF!!
THE SAME APPLIES FOR MYSELF, OF COURSE.

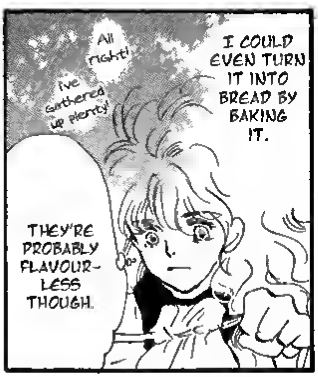
THAT WON'T DO...
Yeah!
YOU'LL END UP RUNNING YOURSELF DOWN TOO.
IN THE MEAN TIME, I'LL TAKE CARE OF PREPARING ALL THE MEALS...
AND GATHERING THE WOOD, AS WELL AS ANYTHING ELSE THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
LISTEN UP...
I WANT TO SEE YOU TWO GETTING SOME REST!
Until you're better, okay?
JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
THAT'S ONE THING YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT!
I HONESTLY LOVE THESE SORTS OF THINGS...
THIS IS SOMETHING I'VE RECENTLY REDISCOVERED ABOUT MYSELF!
AND BEING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS THRILLS ME TO NO END!
I HAD FORGOTTEN ALL THIS TIME...

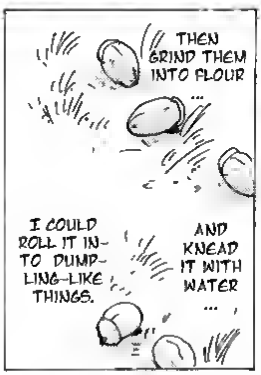

ARE THOSE TWO ...
REALLY GOING TO BE OKAY ...?
YEAH ...
SO JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
Now get some sleep, and pull yourselves together!
BLEGH, WELL I'M TERRIBLE AT IT!
H...
HOW RE-ASSUR-ING!
I hate all this survival business
You're so wonderful Hana-san

Detachable backpack

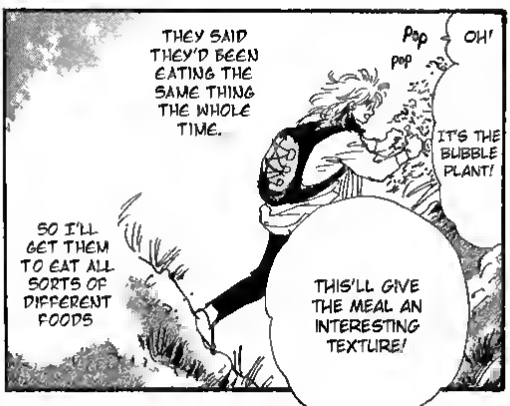
GET TO KNOW THIS WORLD...
GET TO KNOW THIS PLACE...
THIS PLACE HAS TO OFFER.
EAT THE THINGS
AND THE THINGS YOU CAN'T EAT HERE.
TO THE ONES IN THE AREA WHERE THE OTHERS ARE STILL LIVING
THE PLANTS ...
THAT GROW HERE ARE PRETTY SIMILAR...
PLUS THERE'S A WATERING HOLE...
I WONDER ...
All right
IF I CAN FIND THOSE THINGS ...

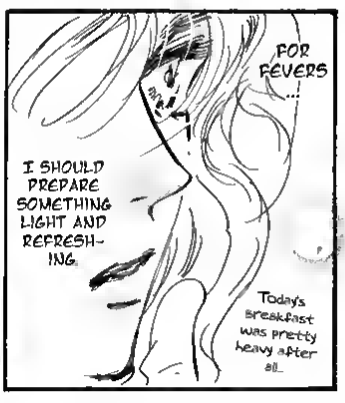

FUJIKO-CHAN SAID THEY WERE INEDIBLE...
THEY WERE RIGHT ABOUT THERE BEING PLENTY...
SINCE THERE ARE NUTS SCATTERED ALL OVER THE GROUND.
THERE THEY ARE!
Their yellow hue easily gives them away

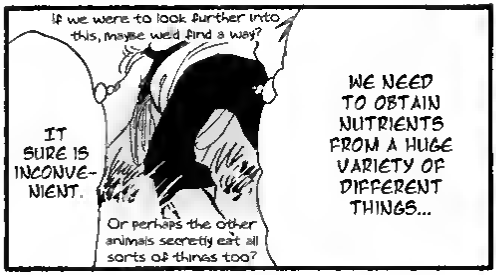

All right!
I've gathered up plenty!
I COULD EVEN TURN IT INTO BREAD BY BAKING IT.
THEY'RE PROBABLY FLAVOUR-LESS THOUGH.

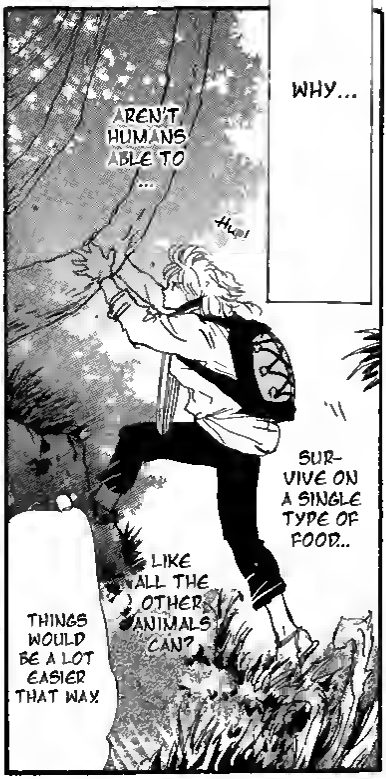

THEN GRIND THEM INTO FLOUR ...
I COULD ROLL IT IN-TO DUMP-LING-LIKE THINGS.
AND KNEAD IT WITH WATER ...

IF YOU LEAVE THEM LIKE THIS, THEY'D BE TOO HARD TO CHEW
I hope the bugs haven't got to them
BUT IF I BREAK AND CRUSH THEM...

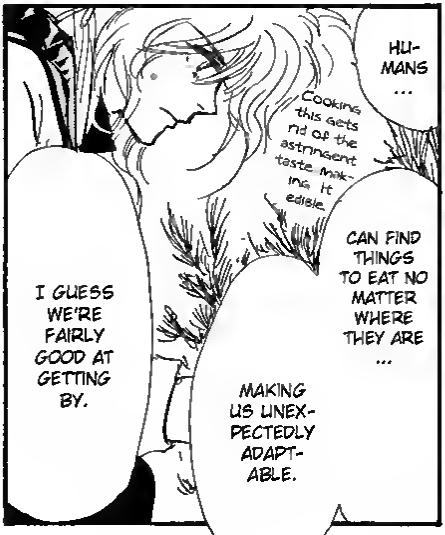

THEY SAID THEY'D BEEN EATING THE SAME THING THE WHOLE TIME.
Pop pop
OH!
IT'S THE BUBBLE PLANT!
SO I'LL GET THEM TO EAT ALL SORTS OF DIFFERENT FOODS
THIS'LL GIVE THE MEAL AN INTERESTING TEXTURE!


FOR FEVERS ...
I SHOULD PREPARE SOMETHING LIGHT AND REFRESH-ING.
Today's breakfast was pretty heavy after all...


If we were to look further into this, maybe we'd find a way?
IT SURE IS INCONVENIENT.
Or perhaps the other animals secretly eat all sorts of things too?
WE NEED TO OBTAIN NUTRIENTS FROM A HUGE VARIETY OF DIFFERENT THINGS...


WHY...
AREN'T HUMANS ABLE TO ...
Huu
SURVIVE ON A SINGLE TYPE OF FOOD..
LIKE ALL THE OTHER ANIMALS CAN?
THINGS WOULD BE A LOT EASIER THAT WAY.

NO...
THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT...


HUMANS ...
Cooking this gets rid of the astringent taste making it edible.
CAN FIND THINGS TO EAT NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE ...
I GUESS WE'RE FAIRLY GOOD AT GETTING BY.
MAKING US UNEXPECTEDLY ADAPTABLE.

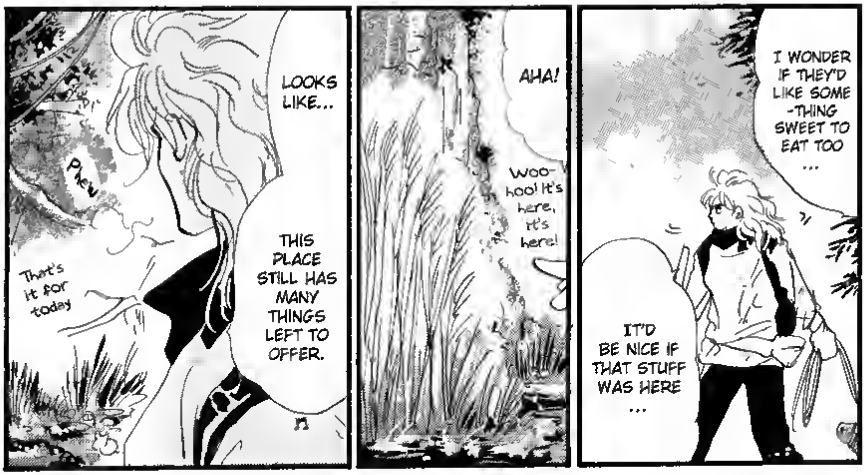
SAY WE WERE CAPABLE OF DOING THAT...
THEN IF WE WERE TO RUN OUT OF THAT SOLE SOURCE OF FOOD...
KRRK
KRRK
THE SAP FROM THIS TREE ...
BURNS REALLY WELL.
WE'D ALL BE WIPED OUT IN ONE FELL SWOOP
And no one would've been able to make it to the future.

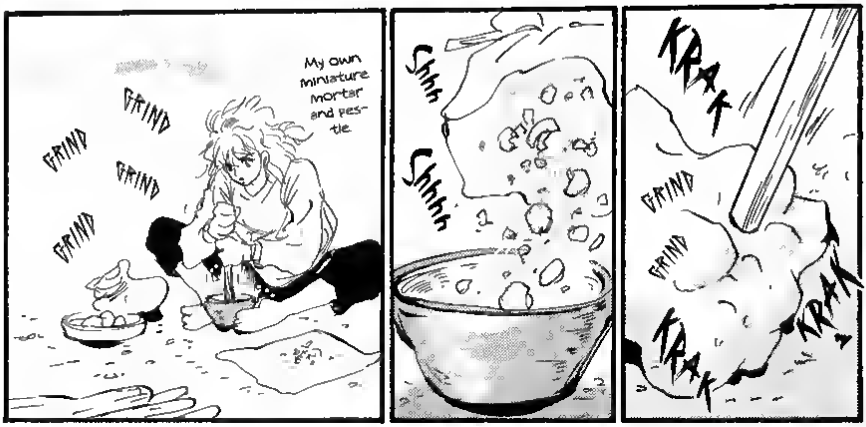
Rustle
Rustle
I WONDER IF THIS COULD BE USED TO BREW TEA ...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HERBS THAT CAN ALLEVIATE FEVERS
IT SEEMED LIKE SUMMER A STILL HADN'T FOUND OUT MUCH ABOUT THE MEDICINAL PLANTS HERE.
THESE ARE...
THE POT TO MUSHROOMS THAT THOSE GUYS...
WOULD OFTEN DIG UP ...
THANK YOU FOR THE FOOD.

I BETTER WATCH OUT FOR THAT KASHIWA-MOCHI ATTACK ...
NEXT IS...
THE WATER-ING HOLE ...
AS WELL AS FOR THOSE CROCODILE-LIKE THINGS.
ALL RIGHT !
FOUND THE EGGS!
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle
Rustle

IF I COOK THEM RICE CONGEE AND ADD IN THESE EGGS...
I WONDER IF FUJIKO-CHAN AND CHISA-CHAN WILL BE PLEASED ...
Forgive me for taking them.
SNAP
Easy does it
THIS ... STONE ...
SEEMS SORTA ...

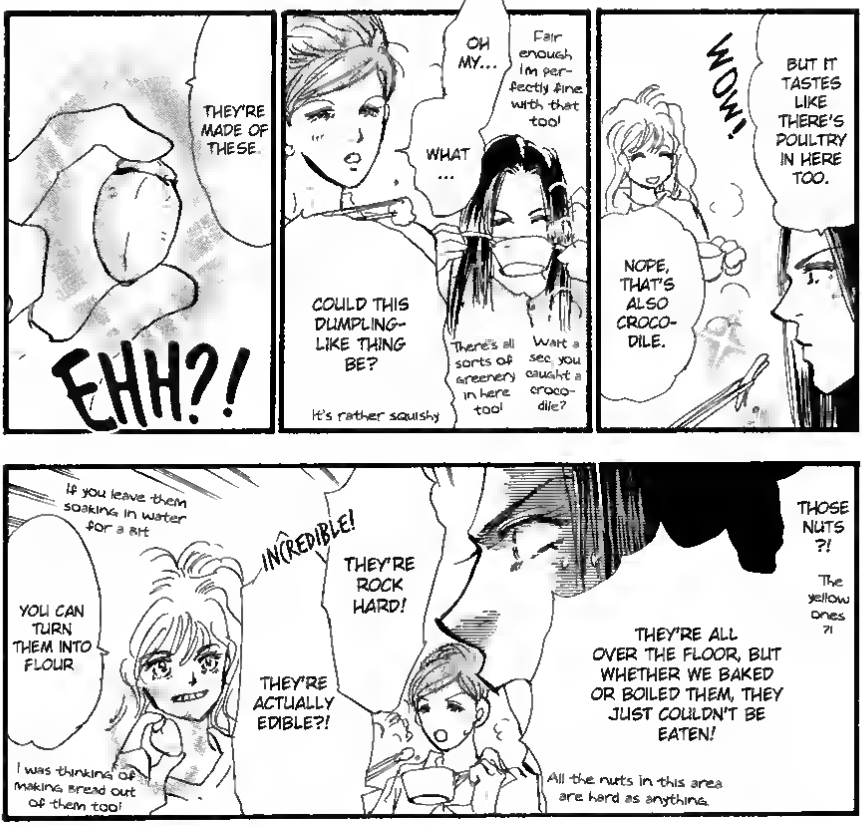
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
Haa
EAT THE THINGS THIS PLACE..
HAS TO OFFER
PLEASE ACCEPT MY GRATITUDE.
Clap
Clap

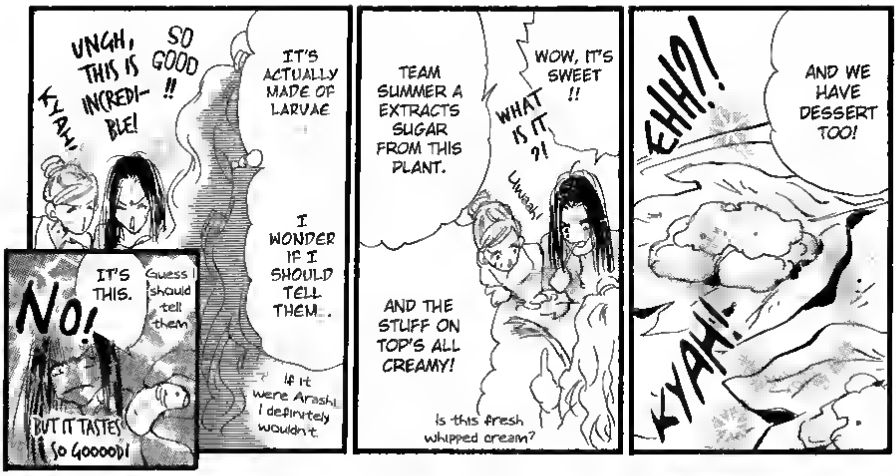

LOOKS LIKE...
Pkew
That's it for today
THIS PLACE STILL HAS MANY THINGS LEFT TO OFFER.
AHA!
Woo-hoo! It's here, it's here!
I WONDER IF THEY'D LIKE SOME -THING SWEET TO EAT TOO ...
IT'D BE NICE IF THAT STUFF WAS HERE ...


My own miniature mortar and pestle
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
Shhh
Shhhh
KRAK
GRIND
GRIND
KRAK
KRAK

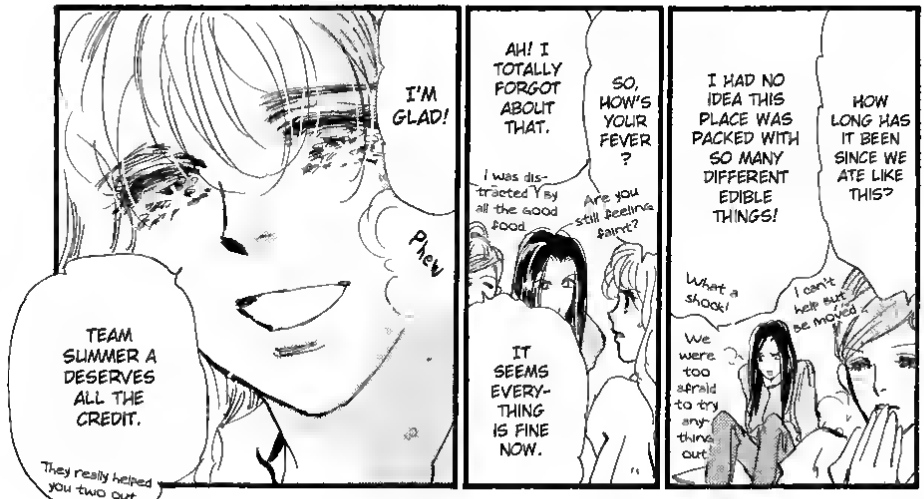
Crackle
Snap

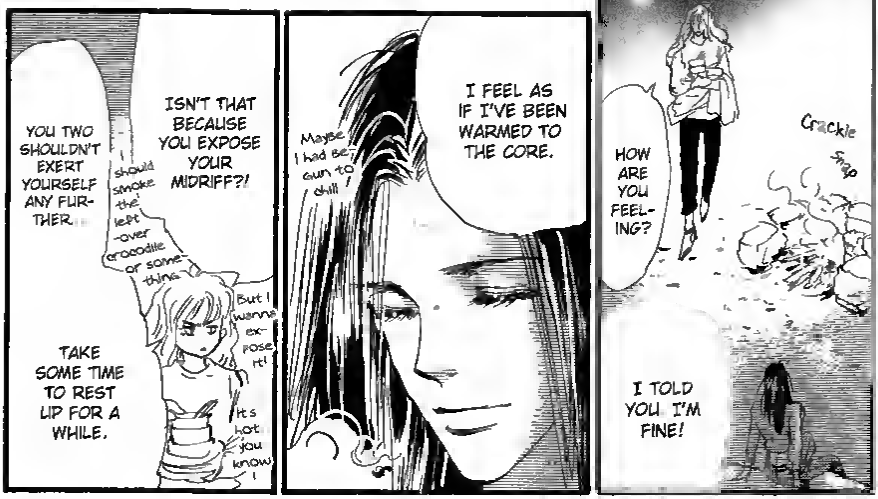
Are you up now?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME ?
WOULD I?!
What is it?!
WHAT A GREAT SMELL ...
EHHH?!
RICE CONGEE ?!
ARE THOSE EGGS ?!
UNAGI!!
NO WAY!
BIRD EGGS ?!
It's been so long since I've had some!
Fuu Fuu
NOPE, THEY'RE CROCODILE EGGS.
I'm glad I kept my mouth shut earlier.
Well, that's fine with me!
HOT, HOT, HOT!
THIS IS DIVINE!

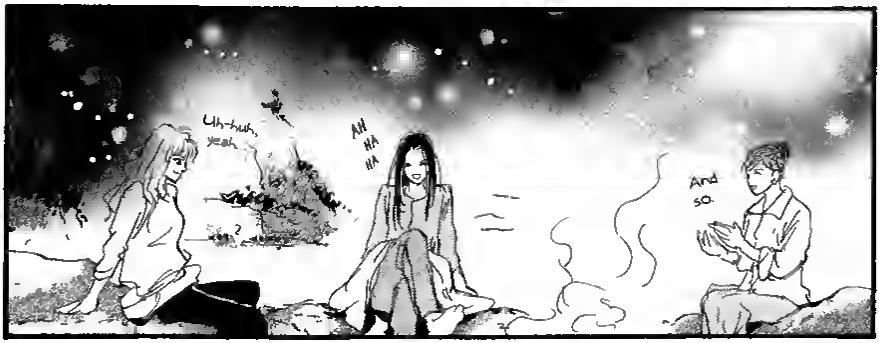

THEY'RE MADE OF THESE.
EHH?!
OH MY...
WHAT ...
Fair enough. I'm perfectly fine with that too!
COULD THIS DUMPLING-LIKE THING BE?
It's rather squishy
There's all sorts of greenery in here too!
Wait a sec, you caught a croco-dile?
WOW!
BUT IT TASTES LIKE THERE'S POULTRY IN HERE TOO.
NOPE, THAT'S ALSO CROCO-DILE.
If you leave them soaking in water for a bit
YOU CAN TURN THEM INTO FLOUR
I was thinking of making bread out of them too!
INCREDIBLE!
THEY'RE ROCK HARD!
THEY'RE ACTUALLY EDIBLE?!
THOSE NUTS ?!
The yellow ones ?!
THEY'RE ALL OVER THE FLOOR, BUT WHETHER WE BAKED OR BOILED THEM, THEY JUST COULDN'T BE EATEN!
All the nuts in this area are hard as anything.
SLURP
Getting seconds
I WOULD LOVE TO GET MY HANDS ON SOME SOY SAUCE OR MISO THOUGH...
The soup stock is only made from dried shrimp and potato mushrooms.
BUT THE SALT ALONE IS ENOUGH TO MAKE IT SUPER YUMMY!
I wonder if soy beans still exist somewhere.
I just copied Summer As recipe.
You out did yourself!
I SEE!
IT'S THIS STUFF.
THEN THERE'S THIS BUBBLY STUFF IN HERE,
IT'S SO GOOD!
Everyone calls it the Bubble plant

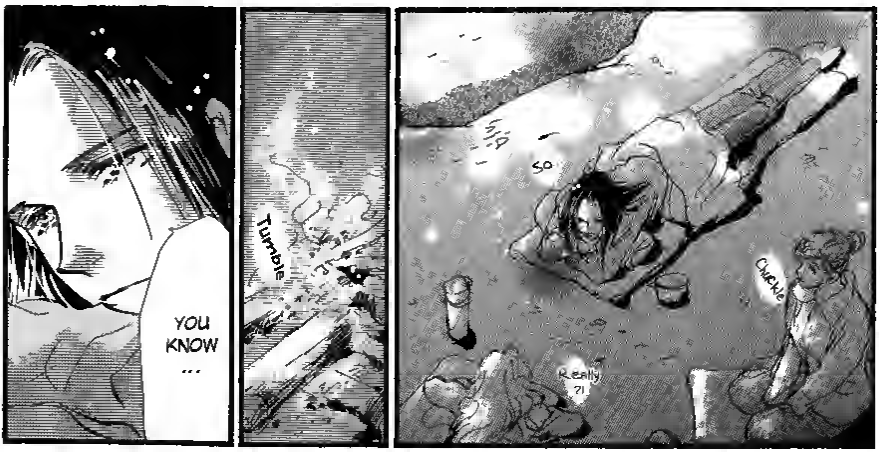

IT'S ACTUALLY MADE OF LARVAE
I WONDER IF I SHOULD TELL THEM...
If it were Arashi, I definitely wouldn't.
UNGH, THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
SO GOOD!!
KIRA!
No!
IT'S THIS.
Guess I should tell them
BUT IT TASTES SO GOOOOD!
TEAM SUMMER A EXTRACTS SUGAR FROM THIS PLANT.
AND THE STUFF ON TOP'S ALL CREAMY!
Is this fresh whipped cream?
WOW, IT'S SWEET!!
WHAT IS IT?!
Uhuuuh!
AND WE HAVE DESSERT TOO!
EHH?!
KYAH!

Thanks for the food!
THIS IS WHAT I CALL BLISS!
PHEW! THAT SURE HIT THE SPOT!


I'M GLAD!
Phew
TEAM SUMMER A DESERVES ALL THE CREDIT.
They really helped you two out.
AH! I TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT THAT.
SO, HOW'S YOUR FEVER?
I was distracted by all the good food.
Are you still feeling faint?
IT SEEMS EVERYTHING IS FINE NOW.
I HAD NO IDEA THIS PLACE WAS PACKED WITH SO MANY DIFFERENT EDIBLE THINGS!
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE ATE LIKE THIS?
What a shock!
I can't help but be moved.
We were too afraid to try anything out.

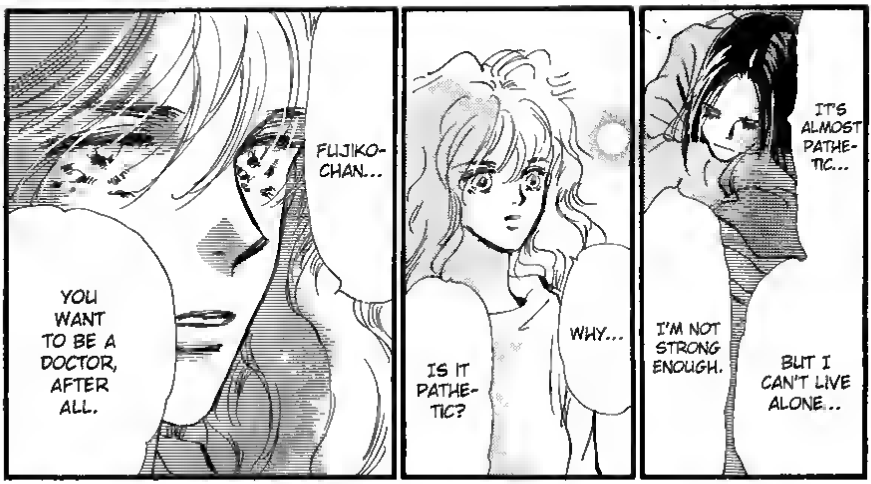

YOU TWO SHOULDN'T EXERT YOURSELF ANY FURTHER.
I should smoke the left-over crocodile or something.
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE YOU EXPOSE YOUR MIDRIFF?!
But I wanna expose it!
It's hot you know!
TAKE SOME TIME TO REST UP FOR A WHILE.
I FEEL AS IF I'VE BEEN WARMED TO THE CORE.
Maybe I had better turn to chill!
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
Crackle
Snap
I TOLD YOU I'M FINE!


Uh-huh, yeah.
AH HA HA
And so.

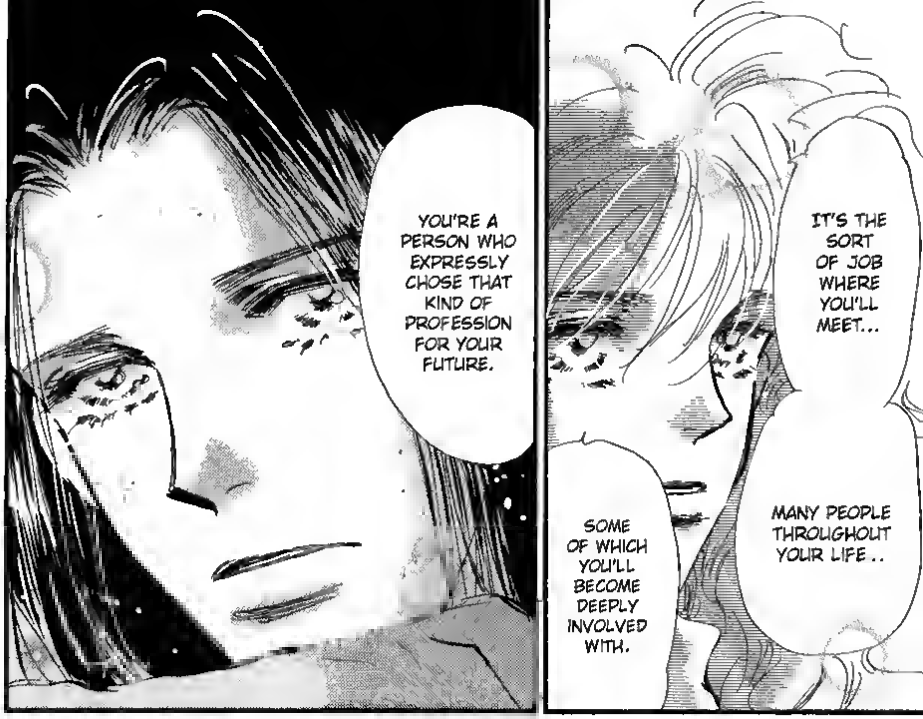

YOU KNOW ...
Tumble
So
Chuckle
Really?!

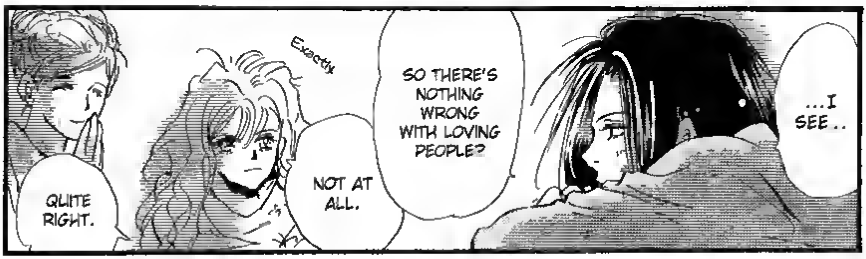
I USED TO LOVE BEING ON MY OWN.
CONSTANTLY GOING OUT WITH FRIENDS ...
FOLLOWING EACH OTHER INTO THE TOILETS ...
STUFF LIKE THAT ALWAYS IRKED ME.
I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND
I ADAMANTLY AGREE.
RIGHT?
I'D MUCH RATHER READ A BOOK ON MY OWN.
HAVING NO FRIENDS IN MY CLASSES ..
DIDN'T BOTHER ME ONE BIT.
DOING THINGS MY OWN WAY AND FOLLOWING MY OWN PATH SUITED ME JUST FINE.
I did a lot of volunteer work and such.
BUT...
AFTER COMING HERE ..
BEING ON YOUR OWN, OR EVEN WITH ONLY ONE OTHER PERSON ...
MAKES YOU REALISE WHAT TRUE LONELINESS IS.
YES ...
Quite so.
I LONG FOR PEOPLE ...

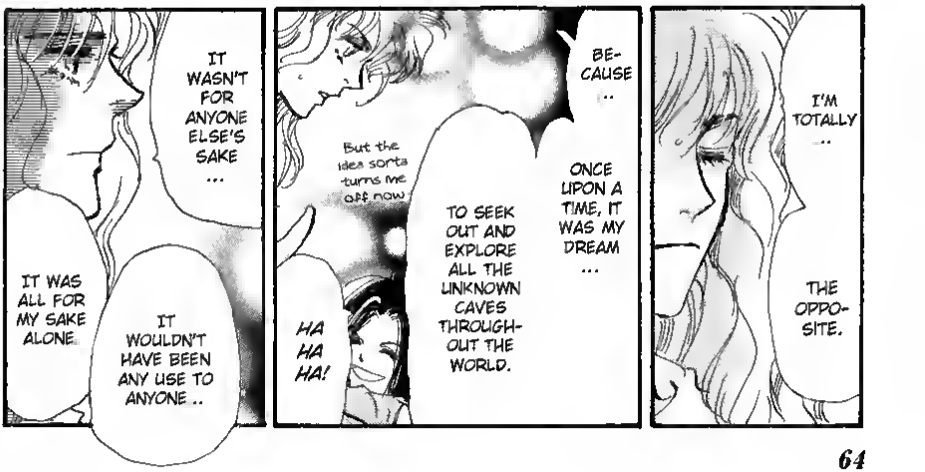
I YEARN FOR HUMAN COMPANY.


FUJIKO-CHAN...
YOU WANT TO BE A DOCTOR, AFTER ALL.
IS IT PATHE-TIC?
WHY...
I'M NOT STRONG ENOUGH.
IT'S ALMOST PATHE-TIC...
BUT I CAN'T LIVE ALONE...

THAT REQUIRES YOU TO CONNECT WITH PEOPLE, RIGHT?
IT'S THE SORT OF JOB...


YOU'RE A PERSON WHO EXPRESSLY CHOSE THAT KIND OF PROFESSION FOR YOUR FUTURE.
IT'S THE SORT OF JOB WHERE YOU'LL MEET...
MANY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE..
SOME OF WHICH YOU'LL BECOME DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH.


...I SEE..
SO THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH LOVING PEOPLE?
Exactly
NOT AT ALL.
QUITE RIGHT.


I'M TOTALLY ...
THE OPPO-SITE.
BE-CAUSE ..
ONCE UPON A TIME, IT WAS MY DREAM ...
TO SEEK OUT AND EXPLORE ALL THE UNKNOWN CAVES THROUGH-OUT THE WORLD.
But the idea sorta turns me off now
HA HA HA!
IT WASN'T FOR ANYONE ELSE'S SAKE ...
IT WAS ALL FOR MY SAKE ALONE.
IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ANY USE TO ANYONE ..

HANA ...
BUT, YOU KNOW ...
I WANTED TO GET TO KNOW THIS WORLD FOR MY OWN SAKE SO I SET OUT ...
ON A LONE JOURNEY.
RATHER THAN FAILING AT...
GETTING ALONG WITH PEOPLE ...
ALL ON MY OWN.
THAT I BELIEVED I WOULD BE FINE LIVING IN THIS WORLD ...
IT'S FOR THAT VERY REASON...
THAT'S THE SORT OF PERSON I AM IN THE END.
FUJIKO-CHAN, CHISA-CHAN ...
WHEN WE MET AGAIN ...
I REALISED THAT I WAS JUST FOOLING MYSELF.
TODAY ...
WAS REALLY FUN.

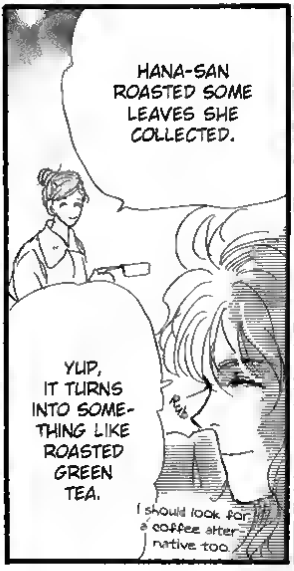
HAVING TO THINK ABOUT WHAT TO FEED YOU ...
WONDERING WHAT SORT OF INGREDIENTS AND WHAT TYPE OF MEAL WOULD PLEASE YOU...
AS WELL AS WHAT WOULD BE EASY FOR YOU TO EAT...
I HAD A LOT OF FUN CONSIDERING ALL THESE THINGS.
IT MADE ME REALLY HAPPY.
Of course I was worried about your health too
UNTIL NOW, I HAD NEVER ...
MADE AN EFFORT ...
TO DO SUCH THINGS
Not even for Arashi, my own boyfriend
I WANT TO GET TO KNOW THIS WORLD
IN ORDER TO SHARE IT WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
SO...
THANK YOU.

IT WAS A REAL FEAST.
HEY NOW ...
I feel a bit embarrassed now
Wait a sec!
WE'RE THE ONES WHO NEED TO THANK YOU!
EXACTLY!
YOU RAN AROUND GATHERING UP ALL THOSE INGREDIENTS FOR US...
IN SPITE OF ALL THE DANGERS.
Ahh, I feel like I'm spewing honey with all these sappy words!
Come now, don't be shy, Fujiko-chan!
CHISA-CHAN...
QUIET-LY...
SMILING.
FUJIKO-CHAN SPEAKING SLOWLY...
IN HER ALTO VOICE
THE SOFT MUR-MUR OF WATER ...
COMING FROM ALL AROUND US...
THE CRACKLING WOOD IN THE FIRE

GENTLY FALLING INTO...
A STATE OF SERENITY.
AND MY HEART ...

HOW FRA-GRANT ...

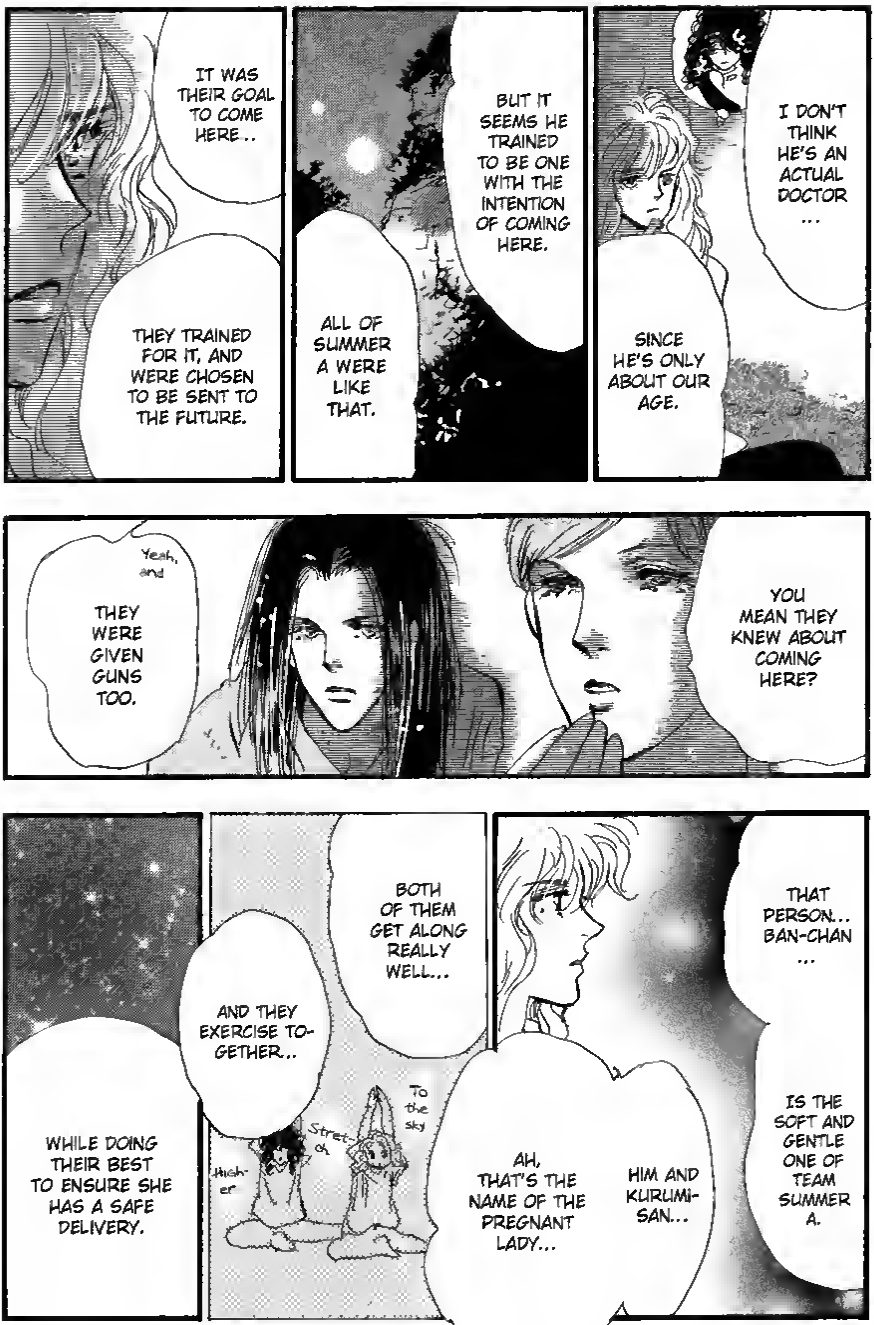
MM...

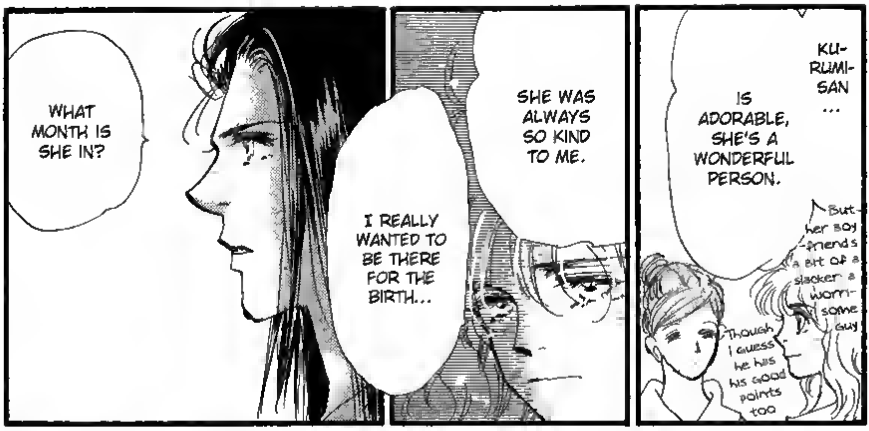

HANA-SAN ROASTED SOME LEAVES SHE COLLECTED.
YUP, IT TURNS INTO SOME-THING LIKE ROASTED GREEN TEA.
Puh
I should look for a coffee alternative too.

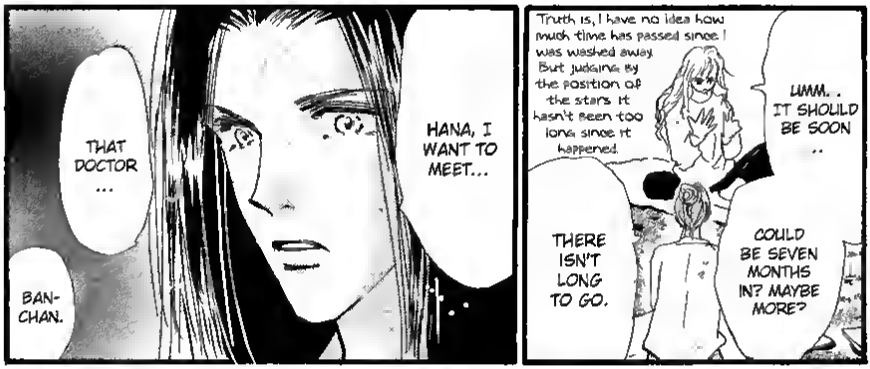
CRCKL

The fire is still going, after all
SHALL I MAKE SOME TEA?
TEA ?!

THERE'S A LADY WHO'S PREGNANT.
IN TEAM AUTUMN ...
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT!
SPEAKING OF DOCTORS...
IT'S NOT LIKE ...
All my books are gone too
I CAN REALLY BECOME A DOCTOR ANYMORE ...
BUT...
WELL ...
AFTER COMING HERE?!
Oh my!
PREGNANT ?!
WHOM SHE'S BEEN CONSULTING.
THERE'S THIS DOCTOR-LIKE PERSON ...
Yeah! I think he really is quite the dare-devil.
AND ...
IN SUMMER A...
YUP ...
HER BOYFRIEND'S IN THE SAME TEAM.
WHAT A DARE-DEVIL HE IS!
THAT GUY SURE HAS GUTS!!
HE SHOULDA HELD BACK!
THERE'S A DOCTOR?

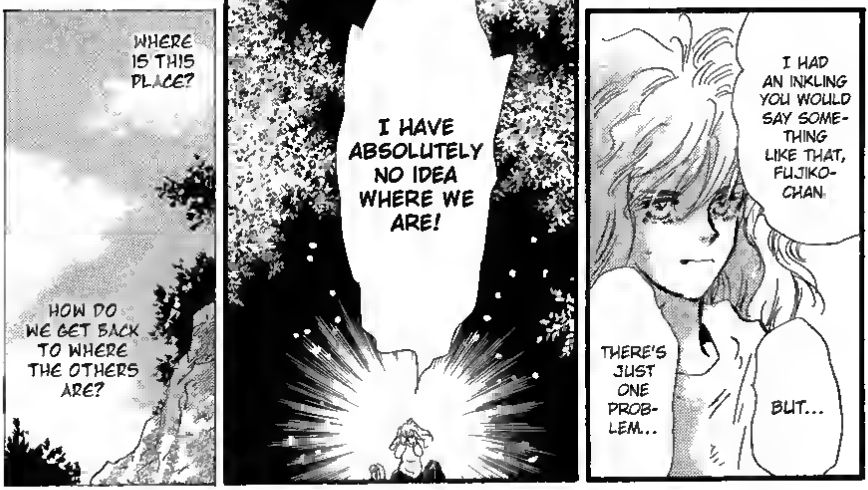

IT WAS THEIR GOAL TO COME HERE..
THEY TRAINED FOR IT, AND WERE CHOSEN TO BE SENT TO THE FUTURE.
BUT IT SEEMS HE TRAINED TO BE ONE WITH THE INTENTION OF COMING HERE.
ALL OF SUMMER A WERE LIKE THAT.
I DON'T THINK HE'S AN ACTUAL DOCTOR ...
SINCE HE'S ONLY ABOUT OUR AGE.
YOU MEAN THEY KNEW ABOUT COMING HERE?
Yeah, and
THEY WERE GIVEN GUNS TOO.
THAT PERSON... BAN-CHAN ...
IS THE SOFT AND GENTLE ONE OF TEAM SUMMER A.
HIM AND KURUMI-SAN...
AH, THAT'S THE NAME OF THE PREGNANT LADY...
BOTH OF THEM GET ALONG REALLY WELL...
AND THEY EXERCISE TO-GETHER..
WHILE DOING THEIR BEST TO ENSURE SHE HAS A SAFE DELIVERY.
Stret-ch
To the sky
High-er

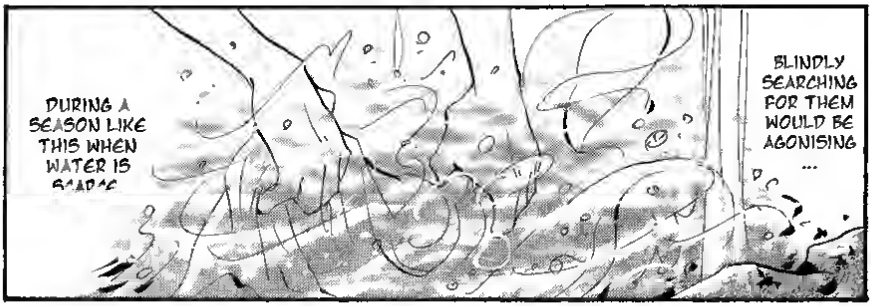

WHAT MONTH IS SHE IN?
I REALLY WANTED TO BE THERE FOR THE BIRTH...
SHE WAS ALWAYS SO KIND TO ME.
KURUMI-SAN ... IS ADORABLE, SHE'S A WONDERFUL PERSON.
But her boyfriend's a bit of a slacker a worrisome guy
Though I guess he has his good points too


THAT DOCTOR ...
BAN-CHAN.
HANA, I WANT TO MEET...
Truth is, I have no idea how much time has passed since I was washed away. But judging by the position of the stars it hasn't been too long since it happened.
UMM.. IT SHOULD BE SOON ..
COULD BE SEVEN MONTHS IN? MAYBE MORE?
THERE ISN'T LONG TO GO.

TO WITNESS THE BIRTH.
AND I WANT TO BE THERE ...

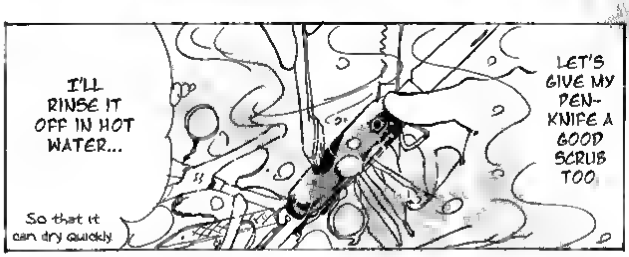
THERE...
MUST BE SOMETHING I CAN DO TO HELP...
Ahh, but I don't want to pass my rash to her
WHEN I VOLUNTEERED OVERSEAS...
I WAS PRESENT FOR A BIRTH.
I ONLY WATCHED THOUGH...
BUT THIS TIME...
I WANT TO DO SOMETHING.
THAT'S WHY I WOULD LOVE TO MEET THAT PERSON, AND LEARN FROM HIM.


WHERE IS THIS PLACE?
HOW DO WE GET BACK TO WHERE THE OTHERS ARE?
I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHERE WE ARE!
I HAD AN INKLING YOU WOULD SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT, FUJIKO-CHAN.
THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM...
BUT...


DURING A SEASON LIKE THIS WHEN WATER IS
BLINDLY SEARCHING FOR THEM WOULD BE AGONISING ...

ESPECIALLY WHEN SHE'S THAT DETERMINED TO.
WANT TO LET FUJIKO-CHAN MEET KURUMI-SAN AND BAN-CHAN.
BUT I HAVE TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT, BECAUSE I DEFINITELY...
Even if those two are there.

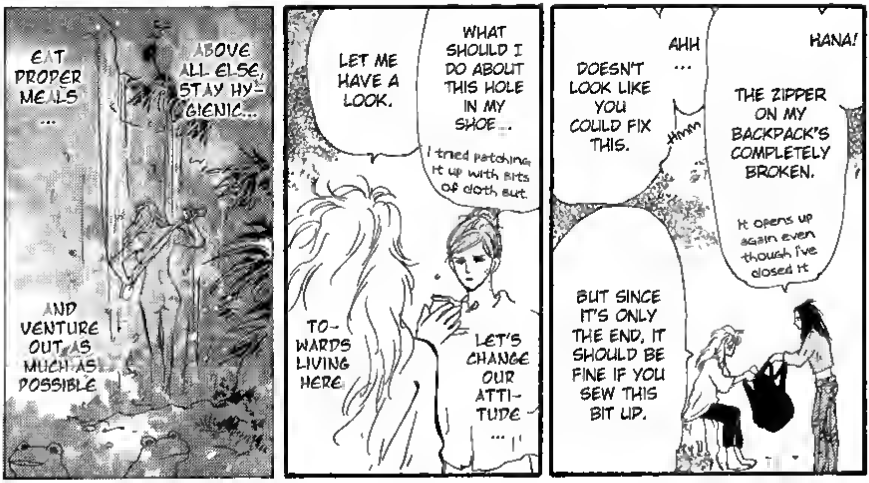
ALL RIGHT! I FINALLY GOT ROUND TO WASHING OFF ALL THAT SEA SALT...
THAT WAS CAKED ONTO MY STUFF.


I'LL RINSE IT OFF IN HOT WATER...
So that it can dry quickly
LET'S GIVE MY PEN-KNIFE A GOOD SCRUB TOO.

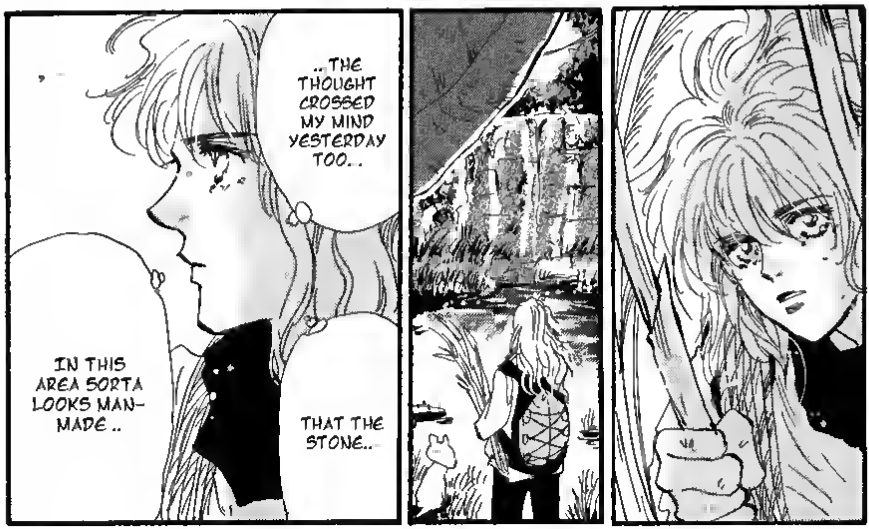
THIS IS THE SALT FROM THE RUNOFF, IF I CLEAN IT UP, MAYBE I COULD REUSE IT FOR SOME-THING.
I'll have to wash this too —

NEXT I'LL MEND MY TORN AND FRAYED BELONGINGS THAT HAVE ALREADY DRIED.
I better sew it up from the base.
Uh-oh! This part is un-ravelling.

AND WHILE I'M AT IT...
I'LL MAKE MYSELF A NEW PAIR OF SANDALS.
I gather-ed plenty of this straw-like stuff on my way to this forest


EAT PROPER MEALS ...
ABOVE ALL ELSE, STAY HYGIENIC...
AND VENTURE OUT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE
LET ME HAVE A LOOK.
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THIS HOLE IN MY SHOE..
I tried patching it up with bits of cloth but...
TOWARDS LIVING HERE
LET'S CHANGE OUR ATTITUDE ...!!
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE YOU COULD FIX THIS.
AHH ...
HANA!
THE ZIPPER ON MY BACKPACK'S COMPLETELY BROKEN.
It opens up again even though I've closed it
BUT SINCE IT'S ONLY THE END, IT SHOULD BE FINE IF YOU SEW THIS BIT UP.

TAKE CARE NOT TO OVERHUNT OR OVER-HARVEST ANYTHING
EVERY DAY AS YOU GO OUT IN SEARCH OF FOOD...


..THE THOUGHT CROSSED MY MIND YESTERDAY TOO..
IN THIS AREA SORTA LOOKS MAN-MADE ..
THAT THE STONE..

MAYBE THEY'RE THE RUINS OF SOME SORT OF BUILDING ...
Jiggg
Sniff

Jiggg

7 SEEDS

by Tamura Yumi

Chapter 114

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Translated by Pandaranda
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Typeset by Azau & Dragonatar
Proofread by naked_kids
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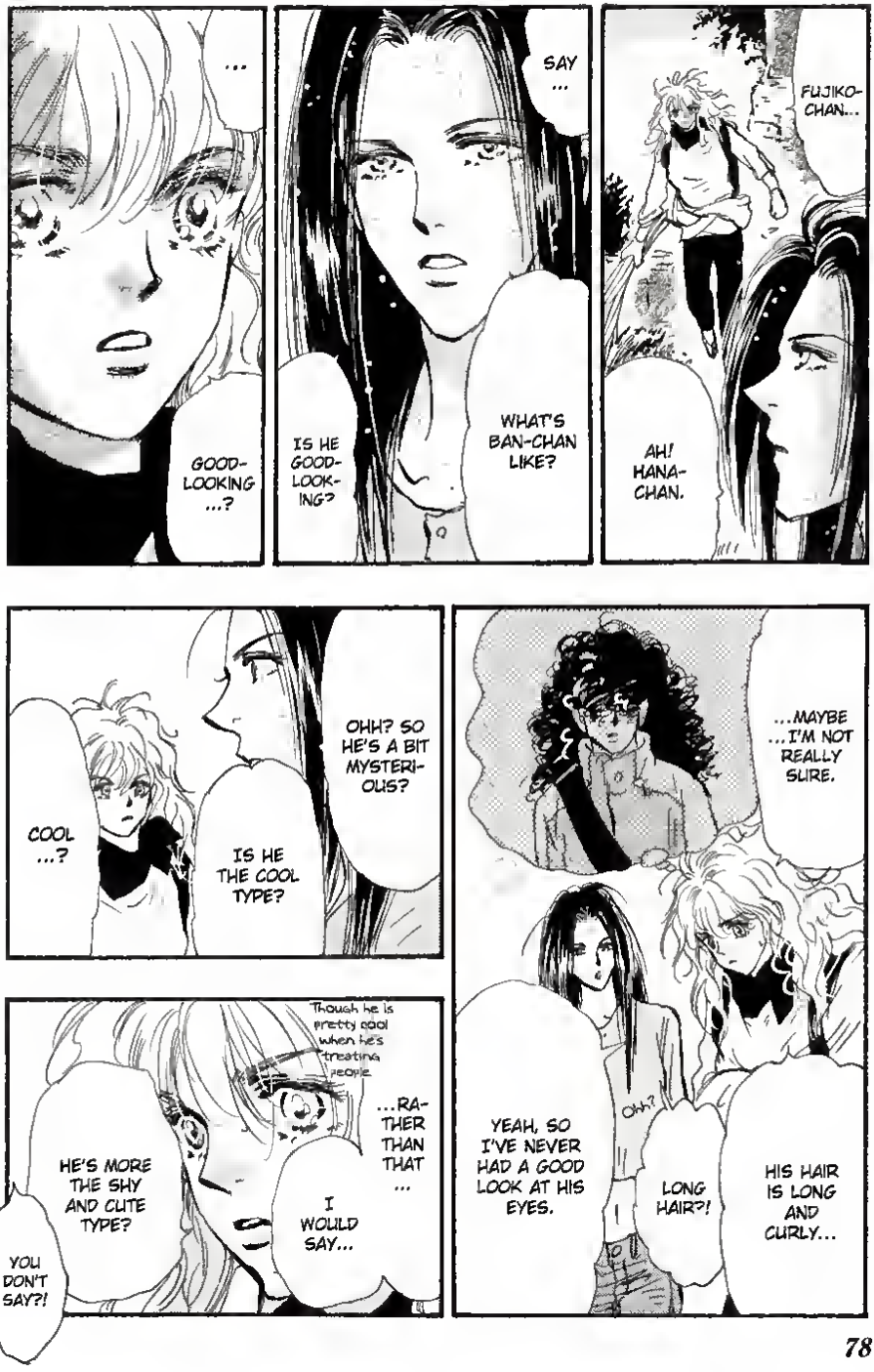
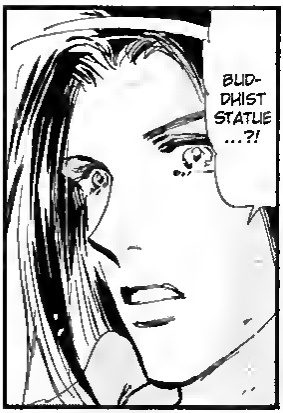
AWAKENING INSECTS
CHAPTER 5

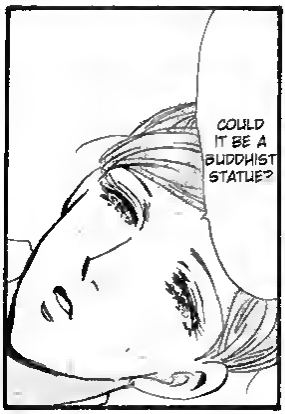
【—OMEN—】


...
GOOD-LOOKING ...?
SAY ...
IS HE GOOD-LOOKING?
WHAT'S BAN-CHAN LIKE?
FUJIKO-CHAN...
AH! HANA-CHAN.
OHH? SO HE'S A BIT MYSTERIOUS?
IS HE THE COOL TYPE?
COOL ...?
...MAYBE ...I'M NOT REALLY SURE.
YEAH, SO I'VE NEVER HAD A GOOD LOOK AT HIS EYES.
OH?
LONG HAIR?!
HIS HAIR IS LONG AND CURLY...
Though he is pretty cool when he's treating people
...RATHER THAN THAT ...
I WOULD SAY...
HE'S MORE THE SHY AND CUTE TYPE?
YOU DON'T SAY?!

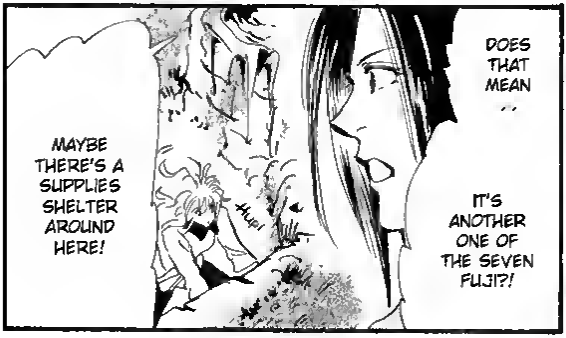
HMM...
HE MIGHT JUST BE MY TYPE.
Long...
curly hair
Shy...
and cute.
STONE STATUE?
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT!
I forgot.
Welcome back.
FUJIKO-CHAN, CHISA-CHAN...
DID YOU KNOW...
ABOUT THE STONE STATUE-LIKE THING BESIDE THE WATER?

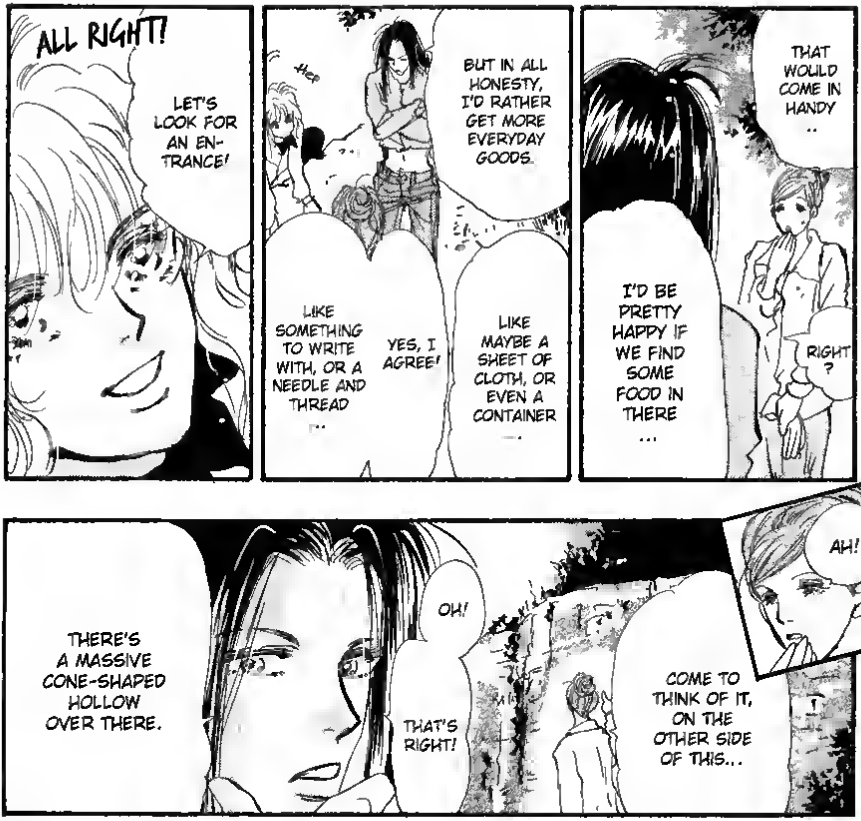
THIS THING!

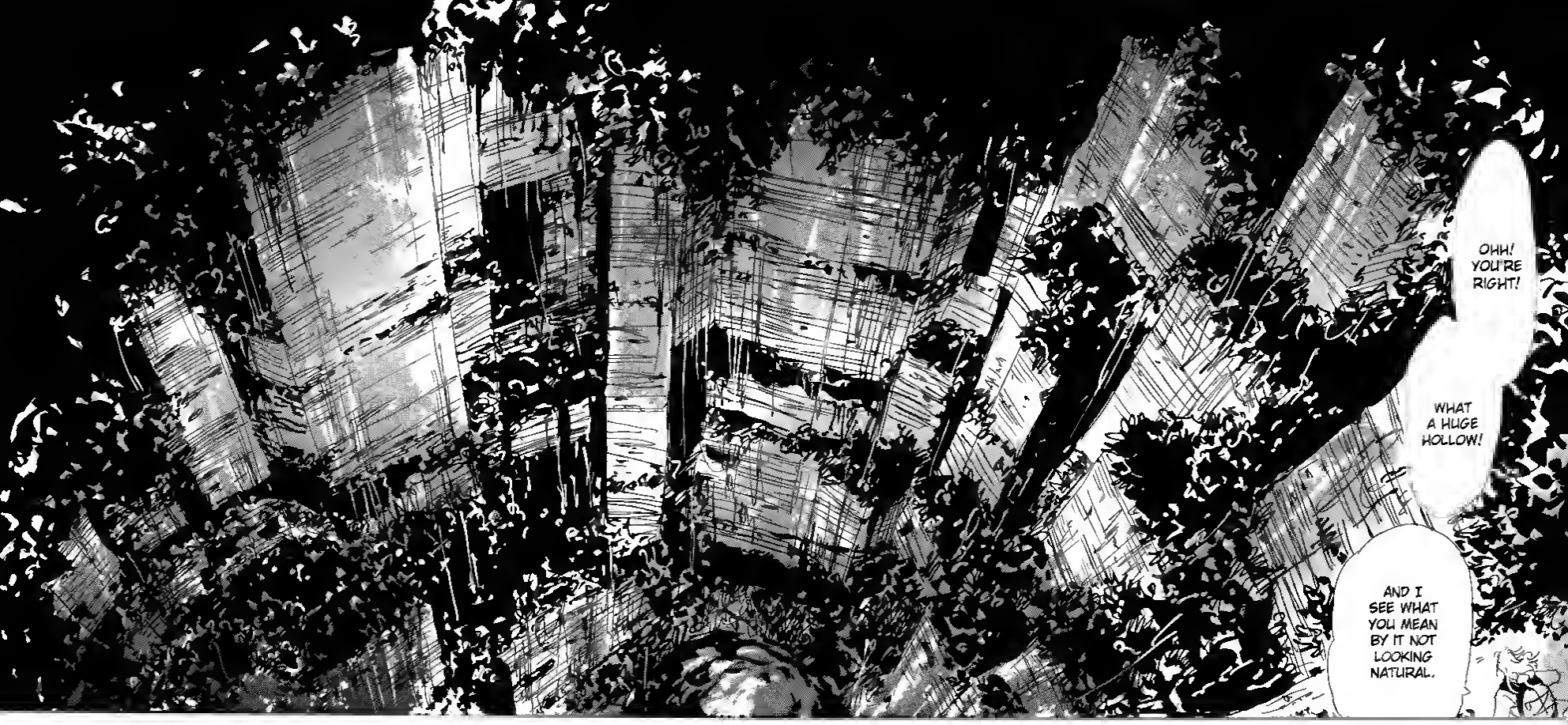

BUD-DHIST STATUE ...?!

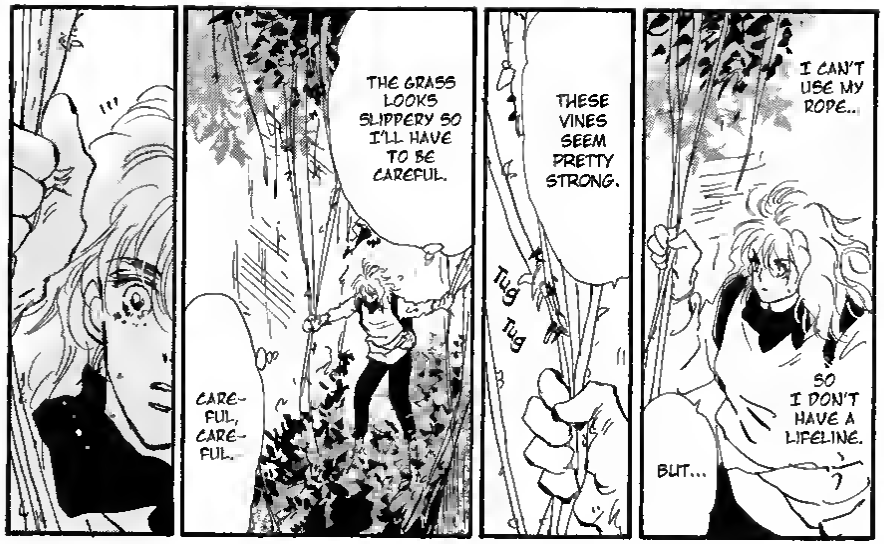

COULD IT BE A BUDDHIST STATUE?

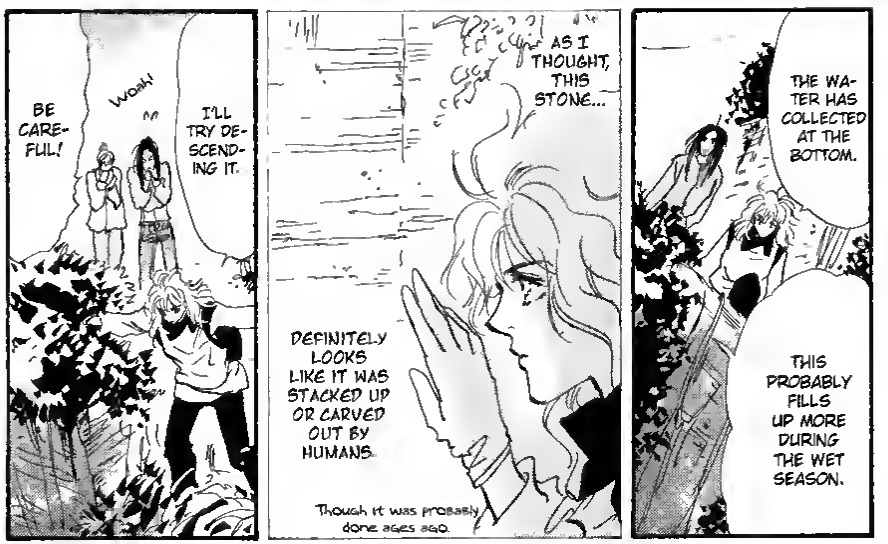
OH? COME TO THINK OF IT, IT DOES SORTA LOOK LIKE A FACE.
IT LOOKS LIKE ONE NOW THAT YOU'VE MENTION-ED IT.

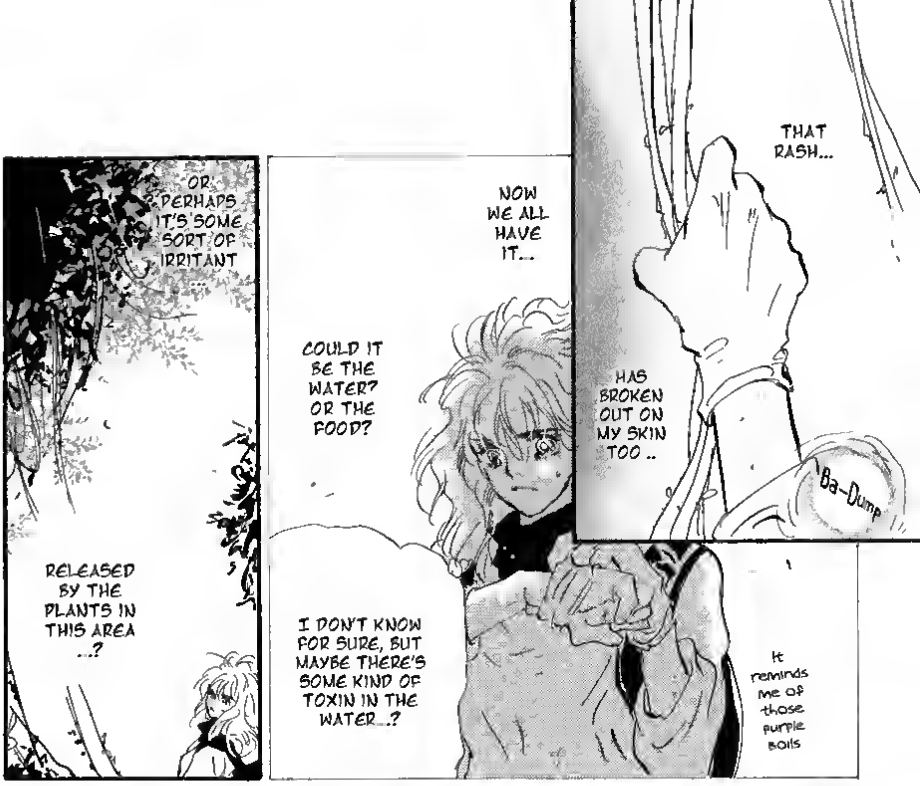

DOES THAT MEAN ..
IT'S ANOTHER ONE OF THE SEVEN FUJI?!
MAYBE THERE'S A SUPPLIES SHELTER AROUND HERE!
HUH?


ALL RIGHT!
LET'S LOOK FOR AN ENTRANCE!
HER
BUT IN ALL HONESTY, I'D RATHER GET MORE EVERYDAY GOODS.
LIKE SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH, OR A NEEDLE AND THREAD ...
YES, I AGREE!
LIKE MAYBE A SHEET OF CLOTH, OR EVEN A CONTAINER —.
THAT WOULD COME IN HANDY ..
I'D BE PRETTY HAPPY IF WE FIND SOME FOOD IN THERE ...
RIGHT ?
THERE'S A MASSIVE CONE-SHAPED HOLLOW OVER THERE.
OH!
THAT'S RIGHT!
COME TO THINK OF IT, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS...
AH!
ALL RIGHT!
THIS IS WHERE I COME IN!
THE ROCK FACE LOOKS A BIT UNNATURAL THOUGH.
Somehow.
IT SEEMS LIKE THERE MIGHT BE SOMETHING DOWN THERE.
Oh, really? I haven't seen it yet.
IT LOOKED DANGEROUS SO WE NEVER WENT NEAR IT ..
In case we fell in

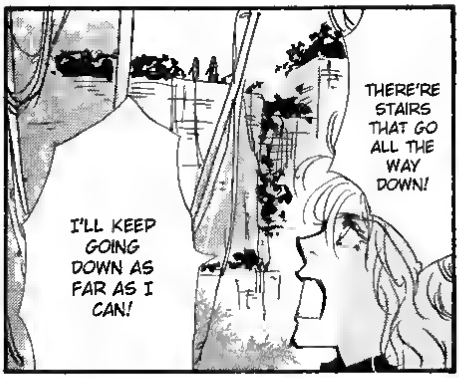

OHH! YOU'RE RIGHT!
WHAT A HUGE HOLLOW!
AND I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN BY IT NOT LOOKING NATURAL.


!!!
THE GRASS LOOKS SLIPPERY SO I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.
CARE-FUL, CARE-FUL.
THESE VINES SEEM PRETTY STRONG.
TUG TUG
I CAN'T USE MY ROPE...
SO I DON'T HAVE A LIFELINE.
BUT...

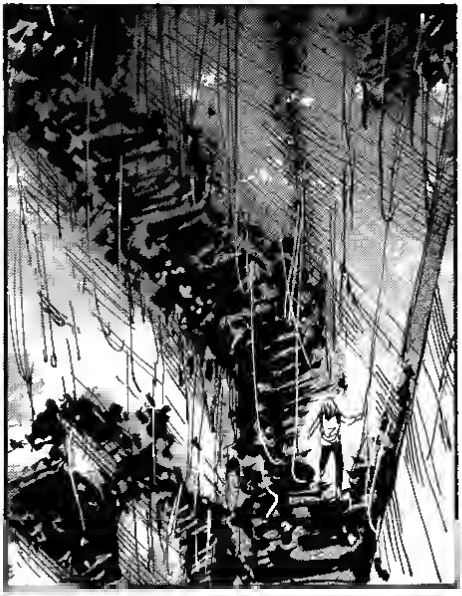

BE CARE-FUL!
WOAH!
I'LL TRY DE-SCEND-ING IT.
AS I THOUGHT, THIS STONE...
DEFINITELY LOOKS LIKE IT WAS STACKED UP OR CARVED OUT BY HUMANS.
Though it was probably done ages ago.
THE WA-TER HAS COLLECTED AT THE BOTTOM.
THIS PROBABLY FILLS UP MORE DURING THE WET SEASON.


THAT RASH...
HAS BROKEN OUT ON MY SKIN TOO ..
Ba-Dump
NOW WE ALL HAVE IT...
COULD IT BE THE WATER? OR THE FOOD?
I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE, BUT MAYBE THERE'S SOME KIND OF TOXIN IN THE WATER...?
It reminds me of those purple boils
OR PERHAPS IT'S SOME SORT OF IRRITANT ...
RELEASED BY THE PLANTS IN THIS AREA ..?

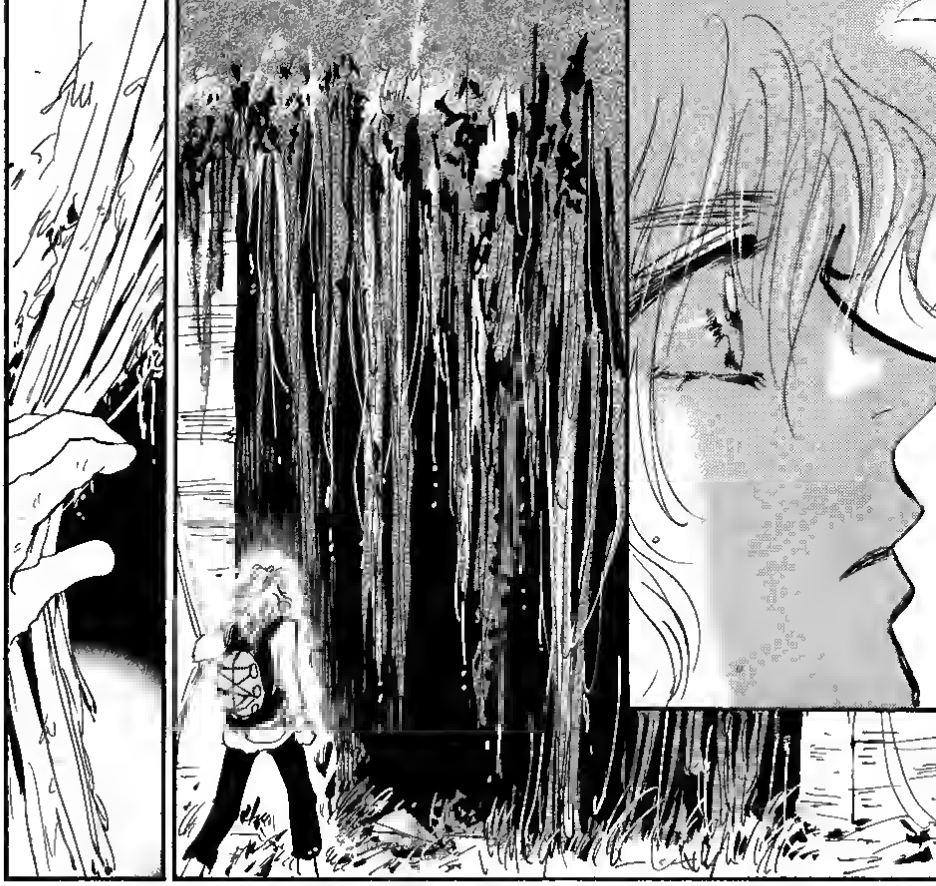
OOPS ..
I SHOULD BE FOCUSSING ON THE TASK AT HAND..
I'LL KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR SOME ...
STABLE FOOTING...
...

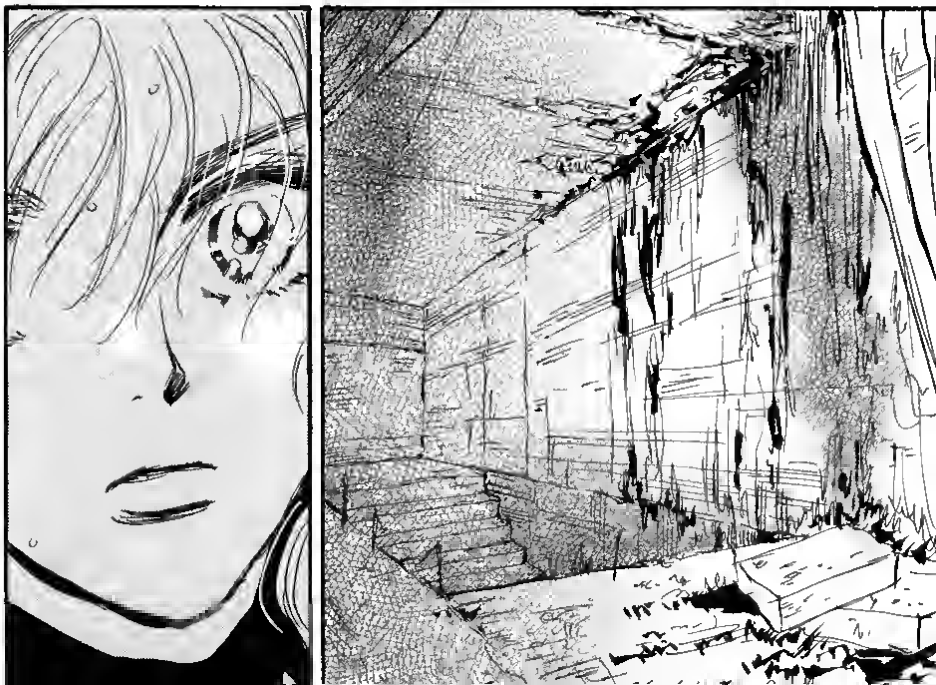

THERE'RE STAIRS THAT GO ALL THE WAY DOWN!
I'LL KEEP GOING DOWN AS FAR AS I CAN!

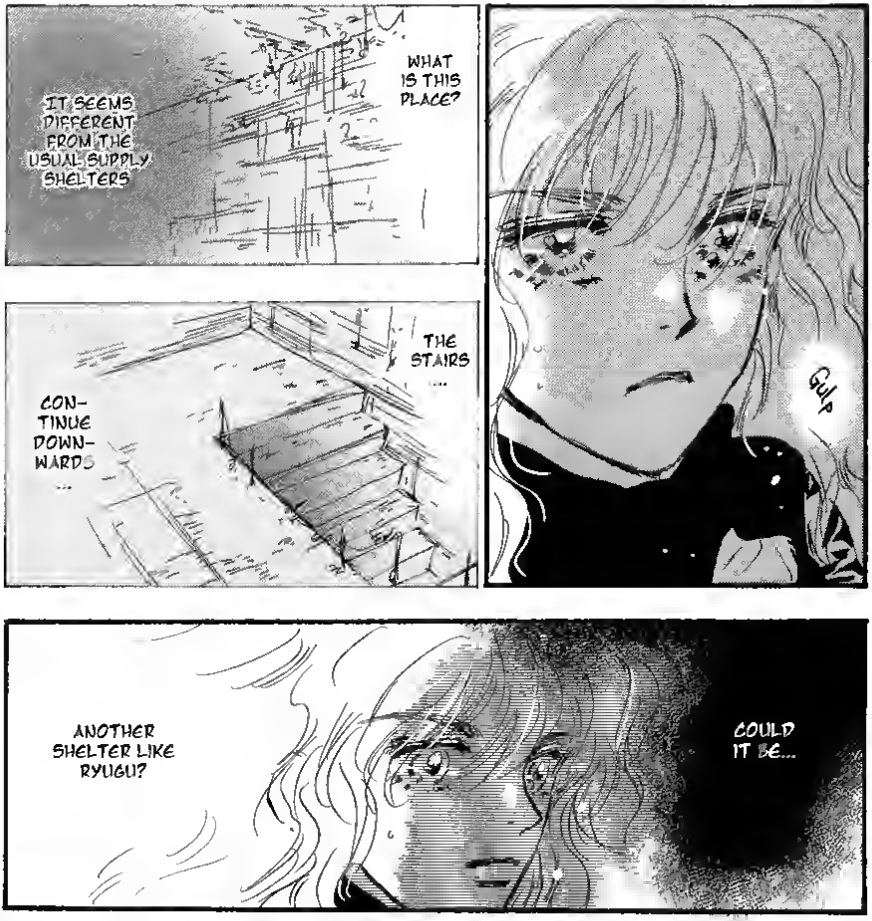
BE CARE-FUL!
STAIRS ?!
DON'T OVERDO IT!
REALLY ?!
I can't see them.



ARE THESE...
STAIRS ...?






IT SEEMS DIFFERENT FROM THE USUAL SUPPLY SHELTERS
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
THE STAIRS ...
CON-TINUE DOWN-WARDS ...
Gulp
ANOTHER SHELTER LIKE RYUGU?
COULD IT BE...
WAITING FOR ME DOWN THERE ...?
MAYBE THERE'LL BE SOME-THING TERRIFY-ING

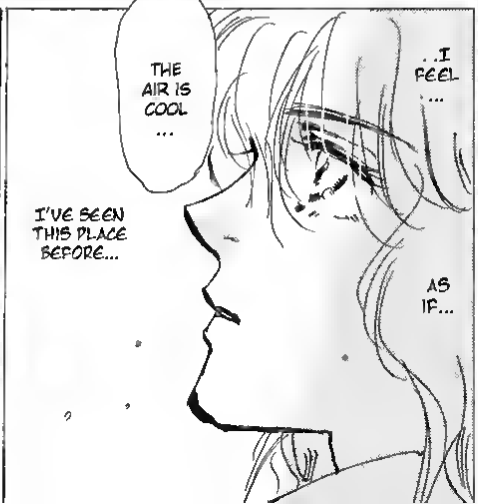
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING HORRIFIC ...
SEALED UP IN A FREEZER DOWN THERE...
MAYBE I'LL BE BURIED ALIVE...
MAYBE THE CEILING WILL COL-LAPSE...
ON TOP OF ME ONCE I GO IN...
MAYBE IT'S BEST NOT TO GO IN AT ALL...

THERE'RE STAIRS IN-SIDE TOO ...
YEAH!
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY TAKE YOU FURTHER DOWN.
IS THAT AN EN-TRANCE ?!
DOES IT LOOK LIKE YOU CAN GET IN, HANA-CHAN?!

FOR FUJIKO-CHAN AND CHISA-CHAN'S SAKE.
I HAVE TO OBTAIN IT...
IF THERE'S ANYTHING USEFUL DOWN THERE...
Suu
Haa
THE FOOT-ING IS SECURE.
AND CALMLY MAKE SURE..
I'LL GO SLOW-LY...
I'M GONNA TAKE A QUICK LOOK AROUND
JUST WAIT WHERE YOU ARE.
EVEN IF THEY ONCE BE-LONGED TO SOME-ONE...
BUT ORAN-SAN MANAGED TO OBTAIN SEVERAL THINGS.
Like the bi-noculars the light and even some data
I PANICKED BACK IN RYUGU SHELTER ...
AND CAME OUT EMPTY-HANDED.
THIS TIME I'LL DEFINITE-LY...
SHE'S STILL A DARE-DEVIL, ALL RIGHT.
DON'T GO TOO FAR IN, OKAY?

WOW...

BUT THAT CAN'T BE..
Shake Shake
I'll look for a store-room


THE AIR IS COOL ...
..I FEEL ...
I'VE SEEN THIS PLACE BEFORE...
AS IF...

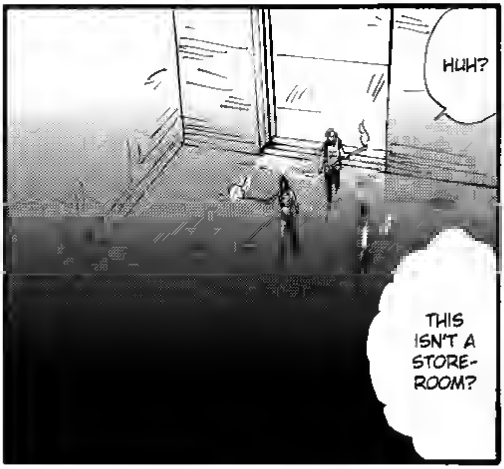
THERE ARE OPEN SKYLIGHTS IN THE CEILING ...

THE SMELL OF MOSS
THE SMELL OF WATER...
THE SMELL OF SOIL...
Squish
During the wet season, the water must rise to that line over there.
THE LOWER LEVELS ARE SUBMERGED IN WATER.
IT'S FULL OF MOSS TOO.
Better be careful not to fall in.
BUT NOT ONLY OUT OF FEAR.
MY HEART IS RACING...

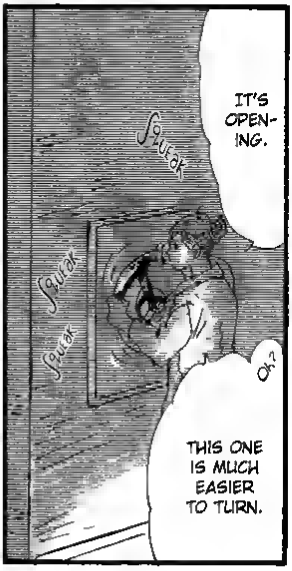
UNNRGH!
UNGH!
I wonder if turning this will open the door
GRIP
You turn left to open, right?
SO MAYBE IT'LL BE OKAY TO OPEN.
THERE'S NO WARNING SIGN WRITTEN OVER IT ...
THAT LOOKS LIKE A STORE-ROOM
IT'S NOT A FREEZER, RIGHT?
UNNRRRRGH!!
IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE TO OPEN?
IT WON'T BUDGE!
IT SHOULD OPEN IF THE THREE OF US COMBINE OUR STRENGTH.
LET'S USE THIS BRANCH FOR LEVER-AGE.
I picked it up

HA HA HA
Chise-chan, don't say stuff like that!
IF THE TIME COMES FOR US TO PERISH, WE'LL ALL GO OUT TOGETHER.
AS IF WE'D LET YOU DO ALL THE DANGEROUS STUFF ON YOUR OWN.
Duh.
UH WELL, WE JUST USED THE STAIRS ...
TO GET DOWN HERE.
EH?!
HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?!
WHAT'RE YOU TWO DOING HERE?!
GRIND
THREE, TWO, ONE, GO!
GRIND
OH...!
AH...!
Pssshh
Rumble
IT GOES SMOOTHLY ONCE YOU GET IT GOING.
GRIND

Urgh!
IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE.


HUH?
THIS ISN'T A STORE-ROOM?

Creak
Creak
Creak
Look at that!
WHAT A THICK DOOR!


IT'S OPEN-ING.
Squeak
Squeak
Squeak
Oh?
THIS ONE IS MUCH EASIER TO TURN.

There weren't any warning signs either
IF THAT WERE THE CASE ...
HEY, THIS ISN'T A NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY, IS IT?
People like us from the future would definitely carelessly open it like this.
I'M SURE THIS PLACE WOULD BE WAY MORE SECURE...
Or that's what I would like to believe.

THERE IS...
ANOTHER DOOR AT THE FAR END.

Just what on earth is in there...?
IT'S ANOTHER THICK DOOR...
Creak
Creak
Pssshh
Creak
Creak
Creak
FWOOSH

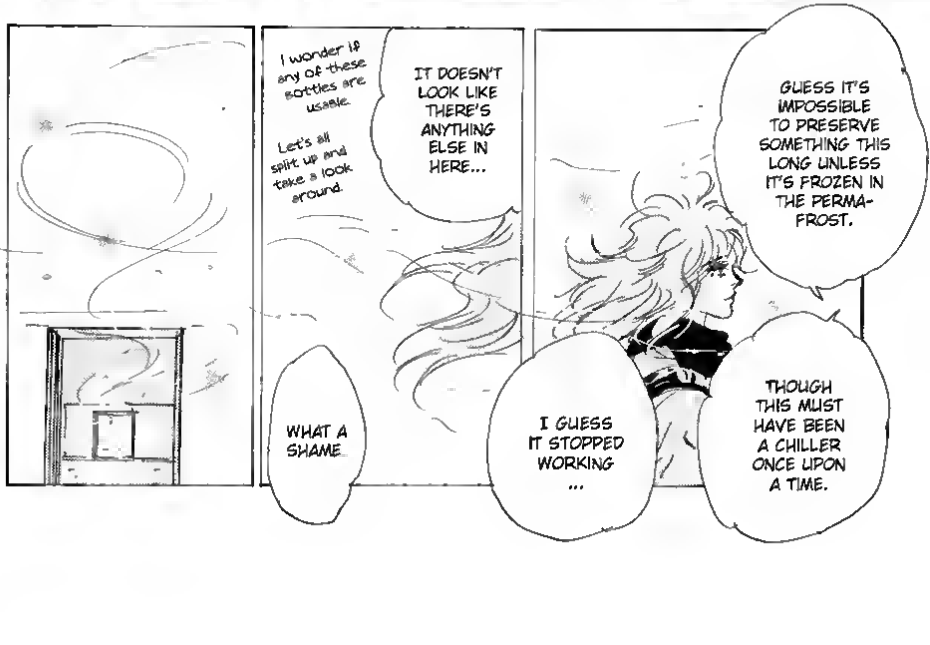
Stop freaking out, Hana.
...NO WAY, CAN'T BE.
IT MUST'VE JUST BEEN THE AIR PRESSURE BEING RELEASED SINCE IT'S BEEN TRAPPED...
IN HERE FOR SO LONG

2
...WIND ...?

IT SMELLS KINDA MOULDY, ALL OF A SUDDEN
IS THERE MOULD GROWING IN HERE?
All the way in here? Still?
THERE IS...
SOME-THING IN HERE THOUGH ...
HUH?!
EH?!
WHAT THE?!
AREN'T THESE SHIITAKE ?!

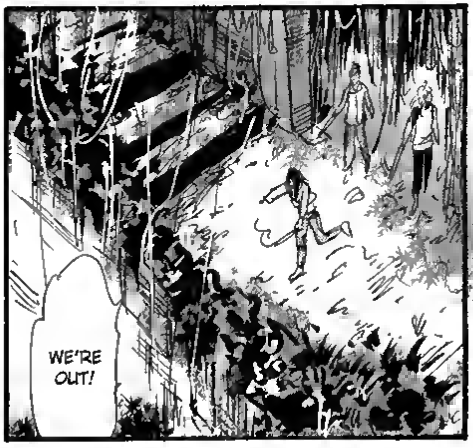
SOME OF THEM...
Plus plenty of other different varieties and even cultivation kits
RESEMBLE SHIMEJI AND ENOKI MUSHROOMS TOO.
EVERYTHING HAS DRIED UP COMPLETELY THOUGH.
It's all fused together
THAT'S NOT SURPRISING
THESE ARE NO GOOD
HUH?
I WONDER IF THEY'RE EDIBLE...
Crumble Crumble
AH...
I wonder what this is.
THERE ARE..
ALL SORTS OF SEEDS..
SOME SEEDS IN HERE TOO.
AHH...
THESE WON'T DO.

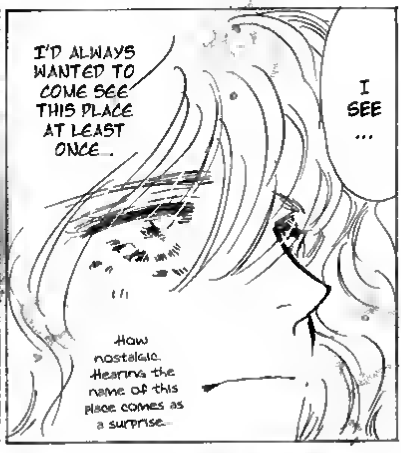
MAY-BE THEY WANTED TO LEAVE US...
PLANT SEEDS AND FUNGI TO GROW...
BUT THEIR PLAN FELL THROUGH.

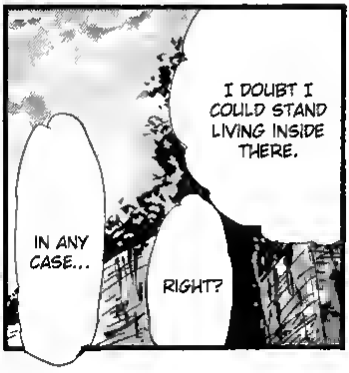

I wonder if any of these bottles are usable.
Let's all split up and take a look around.
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE IN HERE...
GUESS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO PRESERVE SOMETHING THIS LONG UNLESS IT'S FROZEN IN THE PERMA-FROST.
WHAT A SHAME.
I GUESS IT STOPPED WORKING ...
THOUGH THIS MUST HAVE BEEN A CHILLER ONCE UPON A TIME.

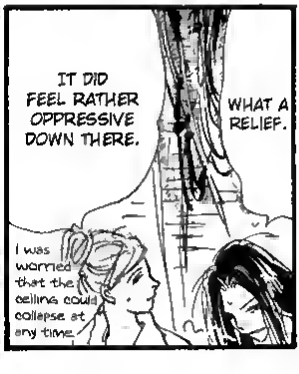
*T/N: **Utsunomiya** is the capital city of the Tochigi prefecture and is about 100 km north of Tokyo. **Ohya stone** is a type of volcanic rock that is popular for carving and sculpting because of its light and durable properties. In the present day, the **Heiwa Kannon** (Peaceful Goddess of Mercy) **statue** stands at a height of 26.9 m and overlooks the ruins of an old quarry.

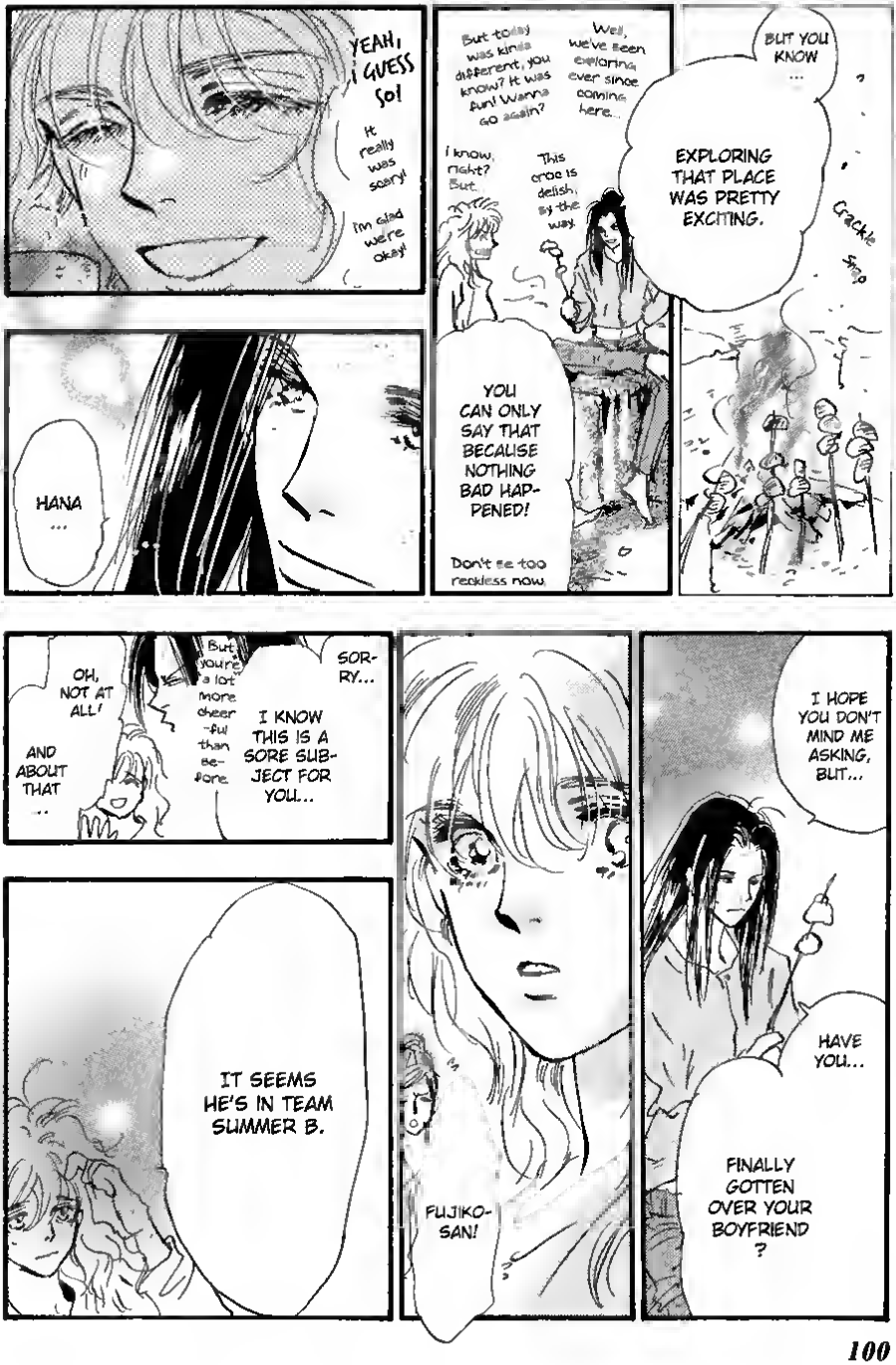
I KNEW I'D SEEN THIS PLACE SOMEWHERE BEFORE! I SAW IT IN PHOTOS!
The place is covered in moss so I didn't realise.
THAT'S IT! THE QUARRY!
SO THAT'S WHAT THAT STONE STATUE IS!
It must've fallen over
I REMEMBER THERE BEING A HUGE KANNON STATUE* IN UTSUNOMIYA TOO.
YEAH, THE OHYA STONE* QUARRY.

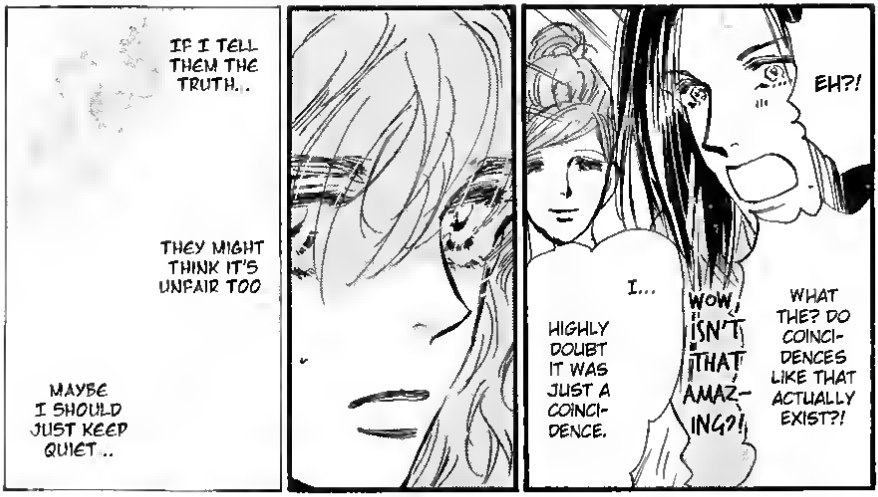


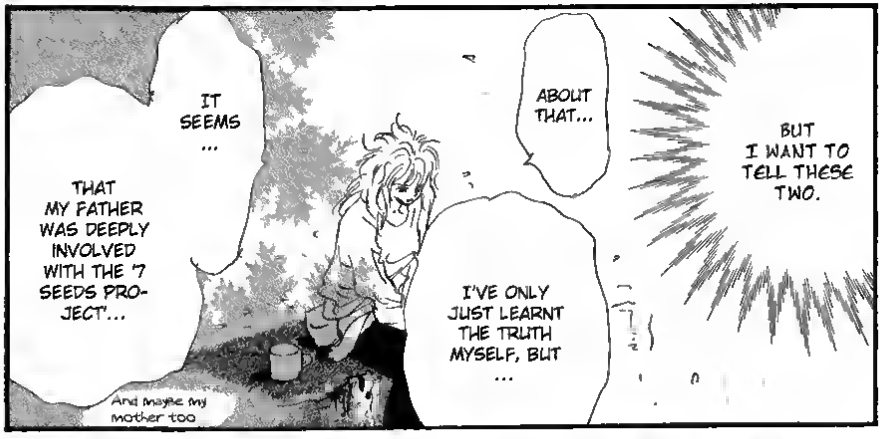

I'D ALWAYS WANTED TO COME SEE THIS PLACE AT LEAST ONCE..
I SEE ...
How nostalgic. Hearing the name of this place comes as a surprise.

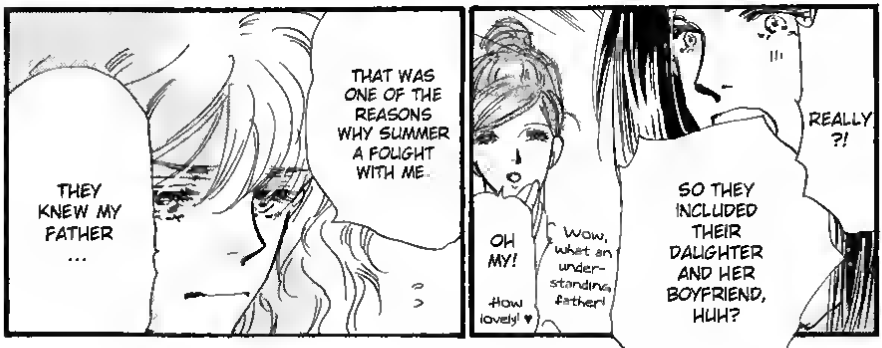


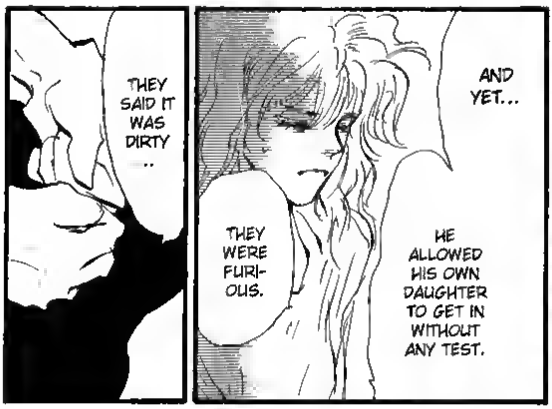



YEAH, I GUESS SO!
It really was scary!
I'm glad we're okay!
But today was kinda different, you know? It was fun! Wanna go again?
Well, we've been exploring ever since coming here...
I know, right? But...
This crab is delish, by the way.
YOU CAN ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE NOTHING BAD HAPPENED!
Don't be too reckless now.
BUT YOU KNOW ...
EXPLORING THAT PLACE WAS PRETTY EXCITING.
Crackle
Snap
HANA ...
OH, NOT AT ALL!
But you're a lot more cheerful than before
SORRY...
I KNOW THIS IS A SORE SUBJECT FOR YOU...
AND ABOUT THAT ...
IT SEEMS HE'S IN TEAM SUMMER B.
FUJIKO-SAN!
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, BUT...
HAVE YOU...
FINALLY GOTTEN OVER YOUR BOYFRIEND ?


IF I TELL THEM THE TRUTH..
THEY MIGHT THINK IT'S UNFAIR TOO
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST KEEP QUIET..
EH?!
I...
HIGHLY DOUBT IT WAS JUST A COINCI-DENCE.
WOW, ISN'T THAT AMAZ-ING?!
WHAT THE? DO COINCI-DENCES LIKE THAT ACTUALLY EXIST?!


IT SEEMS ...
THAT MY FATHER WAS DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH THE '7 SEEDS PRO-JECT'...
And maybe my mother too
ABOUT THAT...
I'VE ONLY JUST LEARNT THE TRUTH MYSELF, BUT ...
BUT I WANT TO TELL THESE TWO.

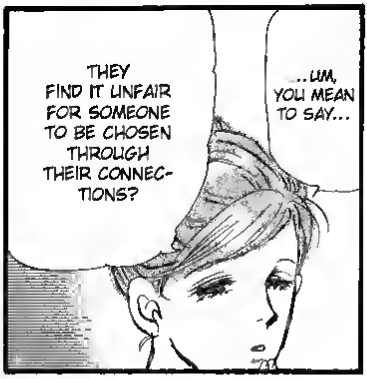

THEY KNEW MY FATHER ...
THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY SUMMER A FOUGHT WITH ME.
OH MY!
How lovely!♥
Wow, what an under-standing father!
SO THEY INCLUDED THEIR DAUGHTER AND HER BOYFRIEND, HUH?
REALLY ?!


THEY SAID IT WAS DIRTY ..
THEY WERE FURIOUS.
AND YET...
HE ALLOWED HIS OWN DAUGHTER TO GET IN WITHOUT ANY TEST.

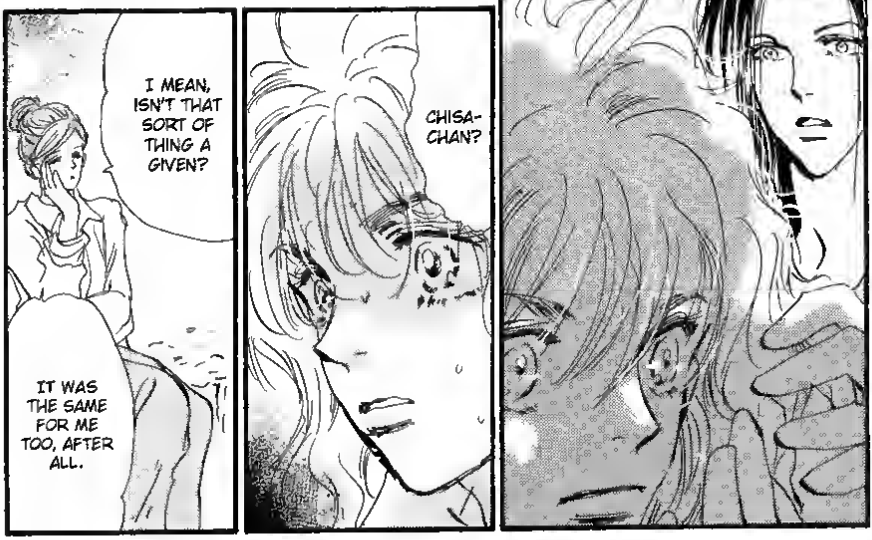
SUMMER A WERE MADE TO TAKE A CRUEL SELECTION TEST...
IN OTHER WORDS, MANY PEOPLE DIED...
AND THE ONE WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE WAS MY FATHER.

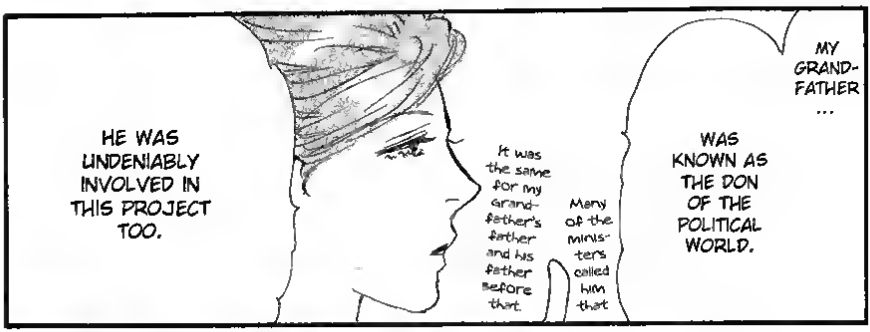
NO WAY ...

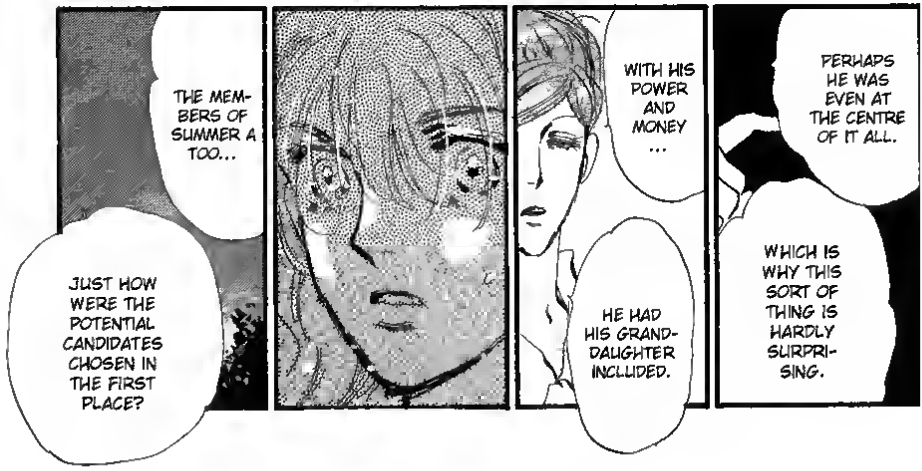
I WONDER IF THE MEMBERS ...
OF TEAM SUMMER A...
ARE RATHER NAIVE WHEN IT COMES TO THE WAYS OF THE WORLD...

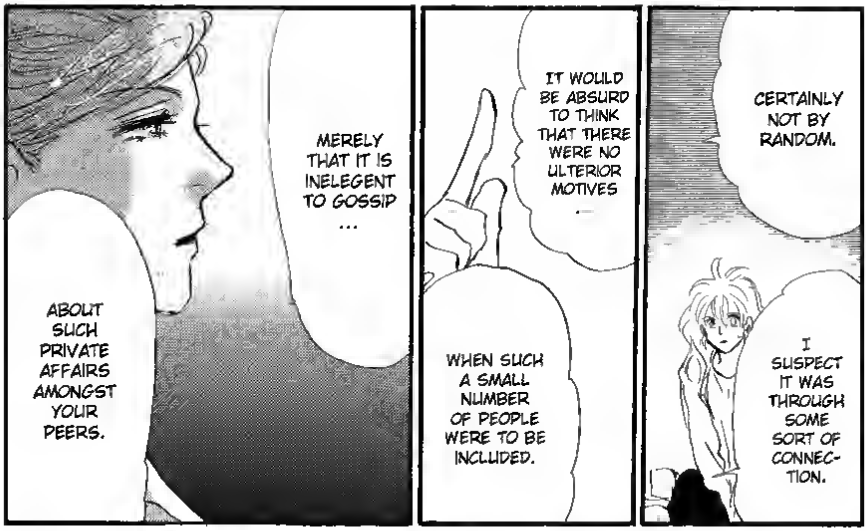

...UM, YOU MEAN TO SAY...
THEY FIND IT UNFAIR FOR SOMEONE TO BE CHOSEN THROUGH THEIR CONNECTIONS?

YEAH ...
I understand how they feel. I really do but.
MY, MY...


I MEAN, ISN'T THAT SORT OF THING A GIVEN?
IT WAS THE SAME FOR ME TOO, AFTER ALL.
CHISA-CHAN?


HE WAS UNDENIABLY INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT TOO.
It was the same for my grand-father's father and his father before that.
Many of the minis-ters called him that.
WAS KNOWN AS THE DON OF THE POLITICAL WORLD.
MY GRAND-FATHER ...

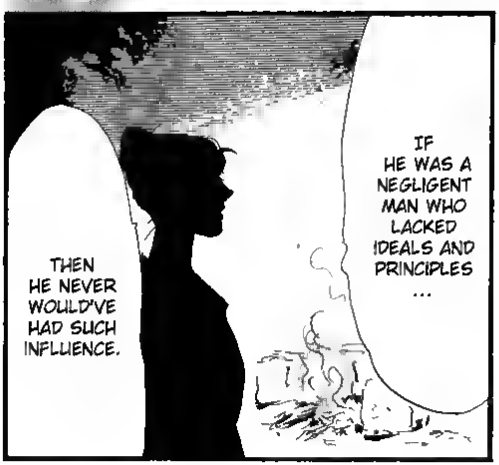

THE MEM-BERS OF SUMMER A TOO...
JUST HOW WERE THE POTENTIAL CANDIDATES CHOSEN IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WITH HIS POWER AND MONEY ...
HE HAD HIS GRAND-DAUGHTER INCLUDED.
PERHAPS HE WAS EVEN AT THE CENTRE OF IT ALL.
WHICH IS WHY THIS SORT OF THING IS HARDLY SURPRI-SING.

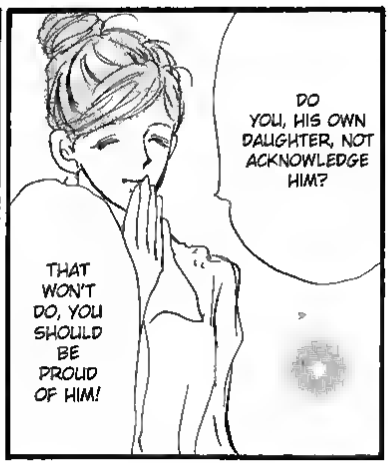

CERTAINLY NOT BY RANDOM.
I SUSPECT IT WAS THROUGH SOME SORT OF CONNEC-TION.
IT WOULD BE ABSURD TO THINK THAT THERE WERE NO ULTERIOR MOTIVES
WHEN SUCH A SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE WERE TO BE INCLUDED.
MERELY THAT IT IS INELEGENT TO GOSSIP ...
ABOUT SUCH PRIVATE AFFAIRS AMONGST YOUR PEERS.

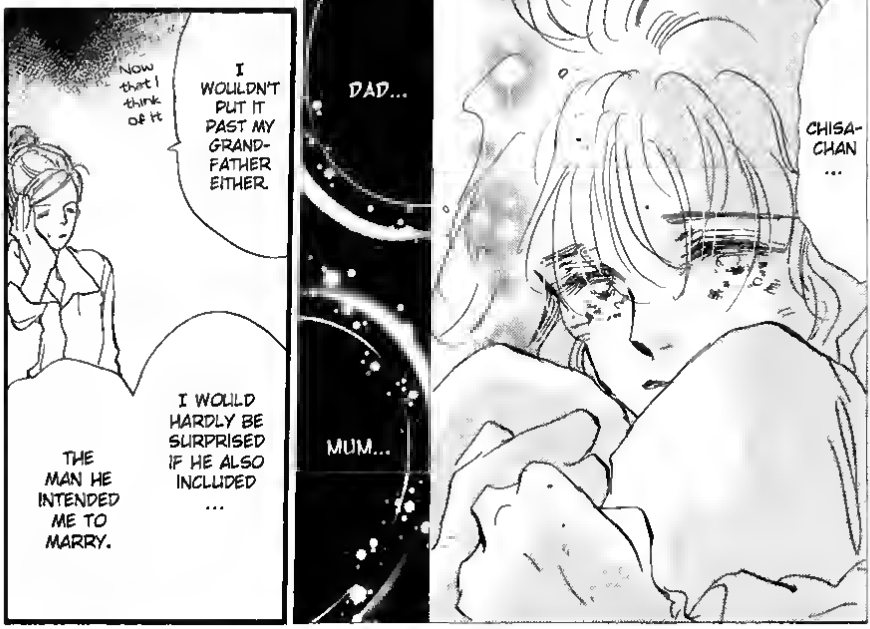
UPON MEETING THE MEMBERS OF SUMMER A...
IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE TO THEM....
THE REALITY OF THE WORLD OF NEPO-TISM.

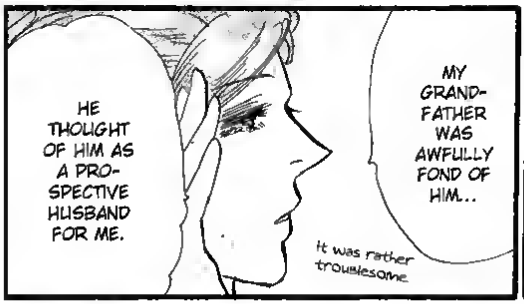
HANA-SAN...
UH, YEAH ...?
Gosh, that left me speechless.
THAT YOUR FATHER WAS ABLE TO HAVE YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONE SENT TO THE FUTURE...
MY POINT EXACT-LY.
WE CERTAINLY WEREN'T CHOSEN THROUGH SOME LOTTERY.
YEAH ...
IT'S TRUE THAT MY PARENTS WERE DOCTORS ...
MAYBE THEY HAD SOME SORT OF CONNEC-TION TOO.
I bet they did
MEANS THAT HE HAD QUITE AN INFLUENTIAL VOICE IN THIS PROJECT.
AND THE FACT THAT HE HAD AN INFLUENTIAL VOICE....
MEANS THAT HE MUST HAVE...
WORKED HIMSELF TO THE BONE FOR THE SAKE OF THIS PROJECT.

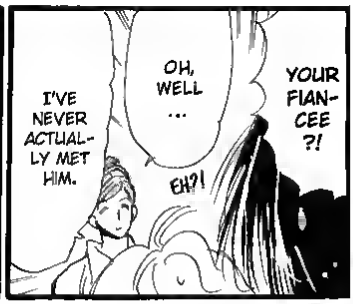
HE STAKED HIS LIFE ON IT...
HE DEVOTED ALL HIS EFFORTS TO IT...!
CHISA-CHAN...
DOES THAT MEAN YOU ACKNOWLEDGE MY FATHER ...?


IF HE WAS A NEGLIGENT MAN WHO LACKED IDEALS AND PRINCIPLES ...
THEN HE NEVER WOULD'VE HAD SUCH INFLUENCE.

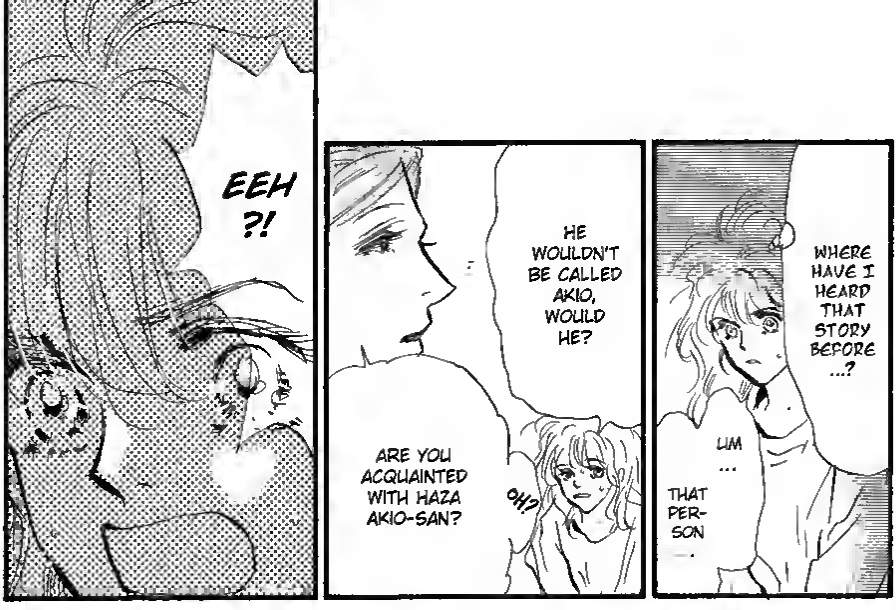

DO YOU, HIS OWN DAUGHTER, NOT ACKNOWLEDGE HIM?
THAT WON'T DO, YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF HIM!

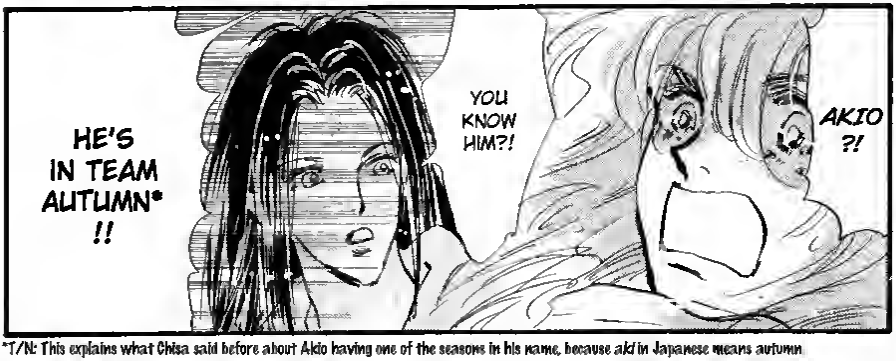

CHISA-CHAN ...
DAD...
MUM...
I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST MY GRAND-FATHER EITHER.
Now that I think of it
I WOULD HARDLY BE SURPRISED IF HE ALSO INCLUDED ...
THE MAN HE INTENDED ME TO MARRY.


MY GRAND-FATHER WAS AWFULLY FOND OF HIM...
It was rather troublesome
HE THOUGHT OF HIM AS A PRO-SPECTIVE HUSBAND FOR ME.

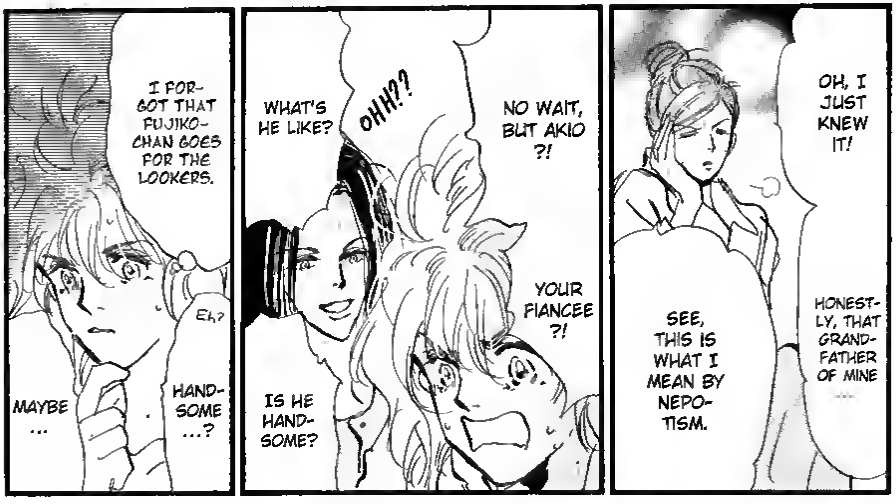

YOUR FIAN-CEE ?!
OH, WELL ...
EH?!
I'VE NEVER ACTUAL-LY MET HIM.

A HIGHLY CAPABLE MAN WHO ATTENDED A PRESTI-GIOUS JAPANESE-AMERICAN UNIVER-SITY...
AND WHILE HE WAS STILL AT SCHOOL HE FOUNDED HIS OWN BUSINESS ...
WHICH RAPIDLY EXPANDED UNDER HIS GUIDANCE.
OH, AND THERE WAS ONE OTHER THING...
HUH?
HIS NAME CONTAINED ONE OF THE SEASONS.


EEH ?!
HE WOULDN'T BE CALLED AKIO, WOULD HE?
ARE YOU ACQUAINTED WITH HAZA AKIO-SAN?
OH?
WHERE HAVE I HEARD THAT STORY BEFORE ...?
UM ...
THAT PER-SON ...



*T/N: This explains what Chisa said before about Akio having one of the seasons in his name, because *aki* in Japanese means autumn

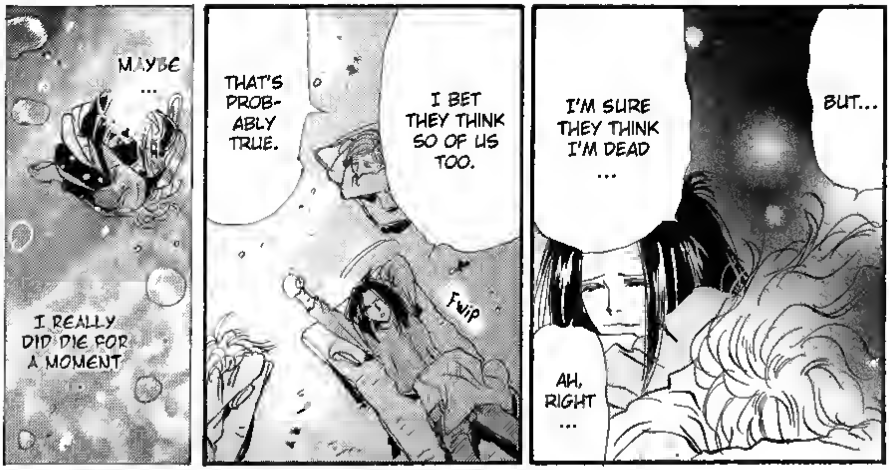


I'M NOT INTERESTED.
AH, NO, NO...
MAYBE HE'LL SUIT YOU, CHISA-CHAN...
HE SORTA GIVES OFF A SCARY AURA.
I suppose you could say he has fine features
AH, BUT ...
HE DOES SAY SOME KIND THINGS ...
May-be
OH, NO! WHAT IF THIS TURNS INTO A LOVE TRI-ANGLE?!
COMMANDING PRESENCE
HANG ON! BEFORE THAT, ISN'T HE WITH ORAN-SAN?!
HOOO

ALL OF A SUDDEN, A STRONG GUST OF WIND BLEW THROUGH, CAUSING THE TREES TO SHUDDER...
THE GIANT TREE SEEMED TO HOWL IN P. IN AS IF ITS BODY WERE BEING WRENCHED APART.
I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST MY IMAGINATION...

WEEEIGH
GURRU
WEEEIGH
screech
screech
GRAH
GRAH
GRAH
KIKI
KIKI
GRAH
GRAH
Splash
MOOOAN
CAW
GROWN
Gekko
Gekko
screech
GROOWL
KIKI
KIKI
OR PERHAPS THIS IS TO HERALD A CHANGE IN SEASON?
I WONDER IF THAT STRONG GUST OF WIND GAVE THEM A FRIGHT...
It only lasted a moment though.
GRAH
GRAH
Splash
MOOAN
THEY'RE A BIT NOISY TODAY
MOOOAN
Kuu
Kuu
BROWN
BROWN
CAW
CAW
You can't really see them but there all... must be thousands of tiny crea-tures and critters in this place.
THERE'RE LOTS OF DIFFERENT ANIMAL CRIES TONIGHT.

AFTER THE RAIN BEGINS TO FALL ...
SHALL WE GET MOVING ?
Yeah.
SINCE WE NOW KNOW THIS IS UTSUNO-MIYA.
Probably, anyway.
YEAH... IF WE HEAD SOUTH ...
AND END UP AT THE KYOGADAKE SUPPLIES SHELTER ...
WE CAN FOLLOW ON FROM THERE AND PROBABLY REACH THE OTHERS...
Although that's the long way round
WOULDN'T THEY BE SEARCHING FOR YOU TOO?
MAYBE WE'LL BUMP INTO THEM ALONG THE WAY.
I DON'T THINK SO...
I CAME HERE THROUGH AN UNDER GROUND CHANNEL ...
IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO FOLLOW THE SAME ROUTE FROM WHERE THEY ARE.
I don't think they even know where the channel leads to either
AND HARU TOO...
ARAMAKI-SAN
I'VE PROBABLY MADE THEM WORRY...


MAYBE ...
I REALLY DID DIE FOR A MOMENT
THAT'S PROB-ABLY TRUE.
I BET THEY THINK SO OF US TOO.
FWIP
I'M SURE THEY THINK I'M DEAD ...
BUT...
AH, RIGHT ...

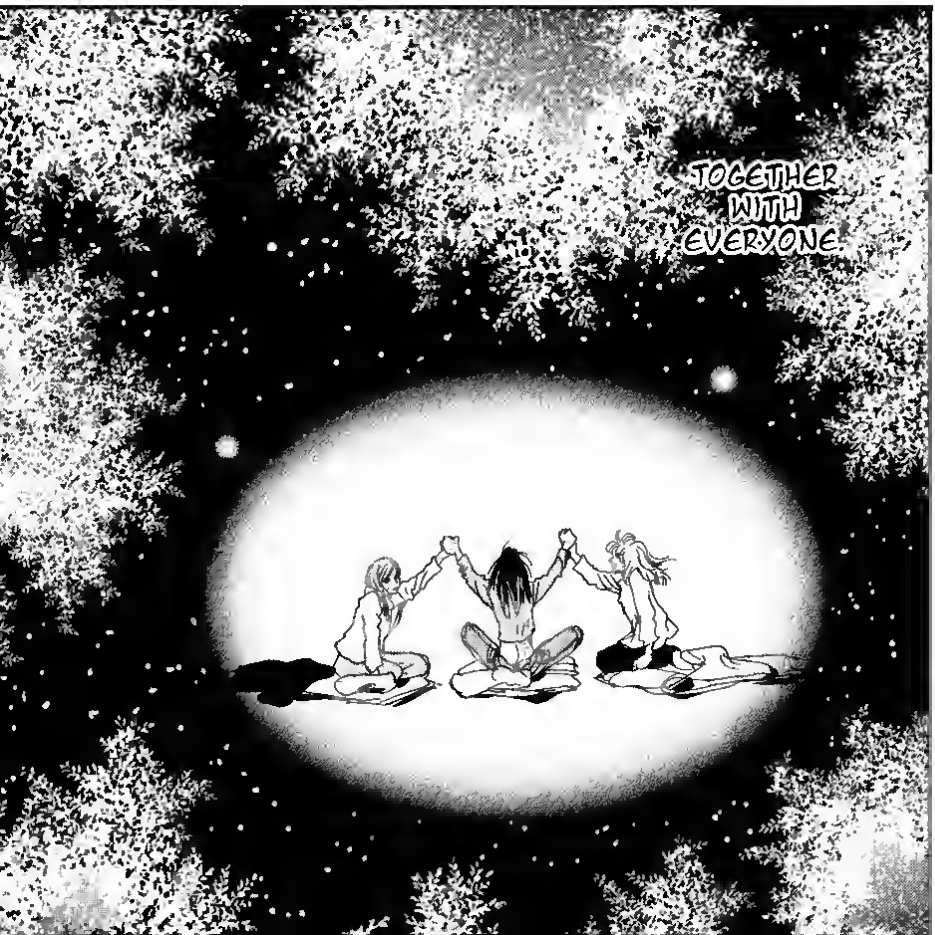
AS IF I'VE BEEN REBORN INTO THIS WORLD.
I FEEL ...

I WILL LIVE HERE.

THAT SOUNDS PRETTY COOL.

WE'LL ...
LIVE HERE...
I GUESS
RATHER THAN LIVING HERE BEGRUDGINGLY BECAUSE ...
WE DON'T HAVE A CHOICE ...
SHALL WE OPENLY EMBRACE IT INSTEAD?
YEAH, WE'LL LIVE HERE AS PEOPLE...
WHO BELONG TO THIS WORLD.

LET'S LIVE HERE..!!


TOGETHER WITH EVERYONE.

7 SEEDS

by Tamura Yumi

Chapter 115

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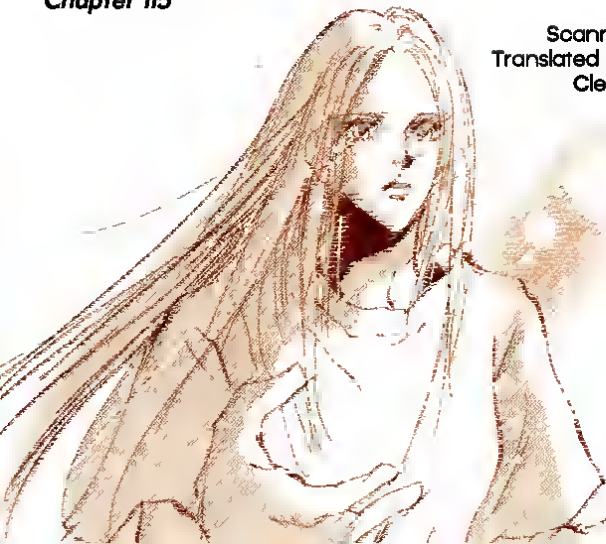

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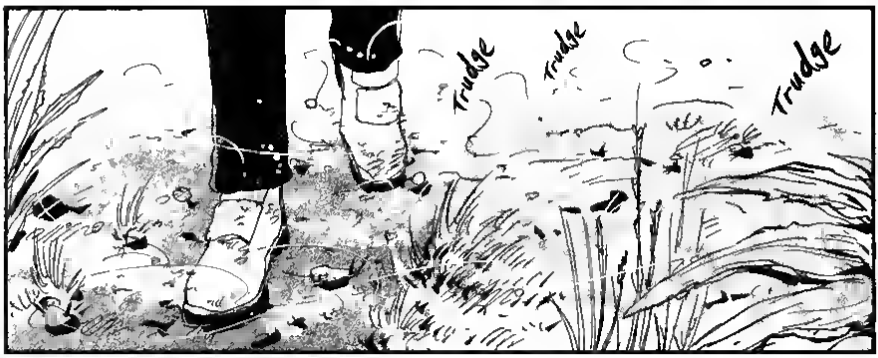
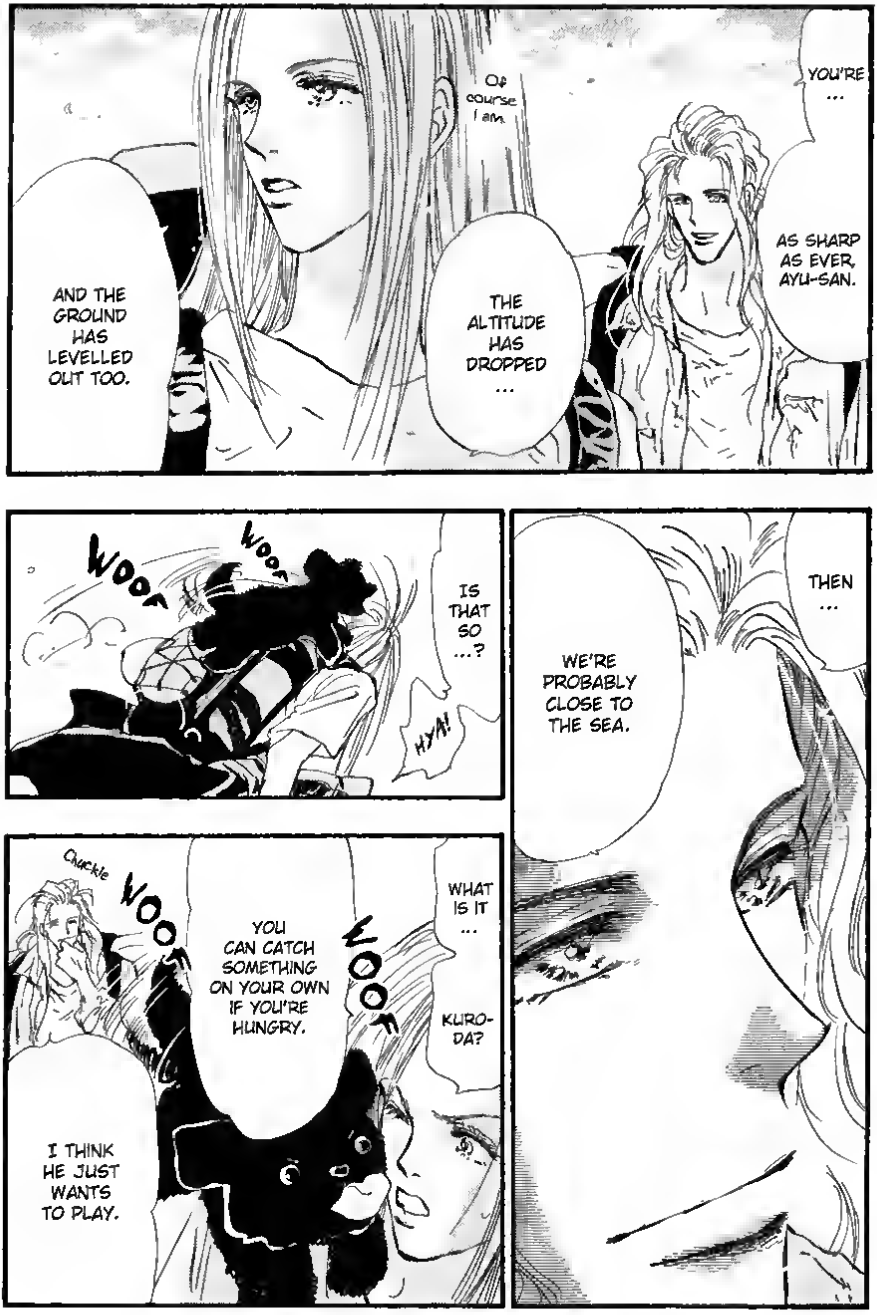
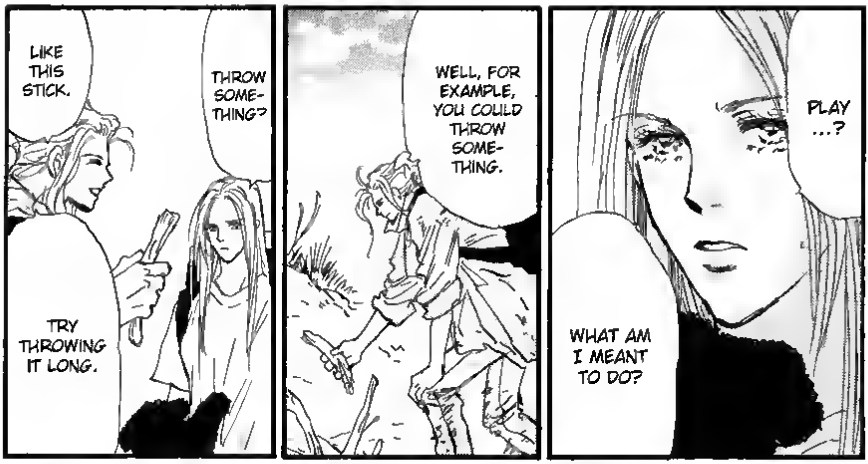
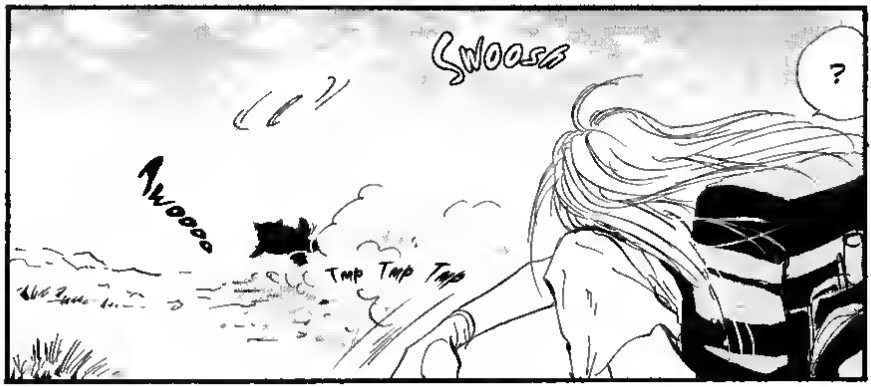

Trudge
Trudge
Trudge

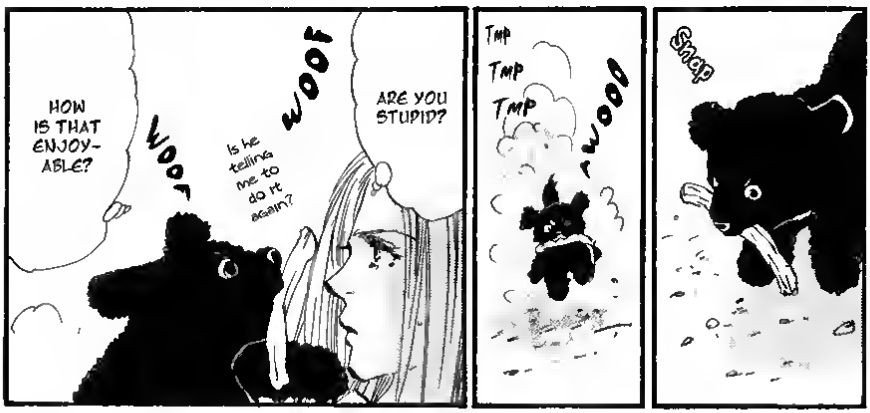
AWAKENING INSECTS
CHAPTER 6

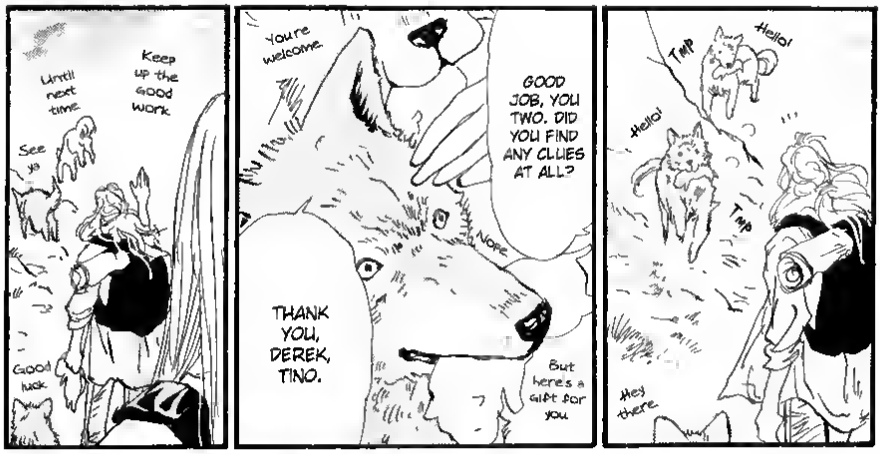
【—WARNING—】

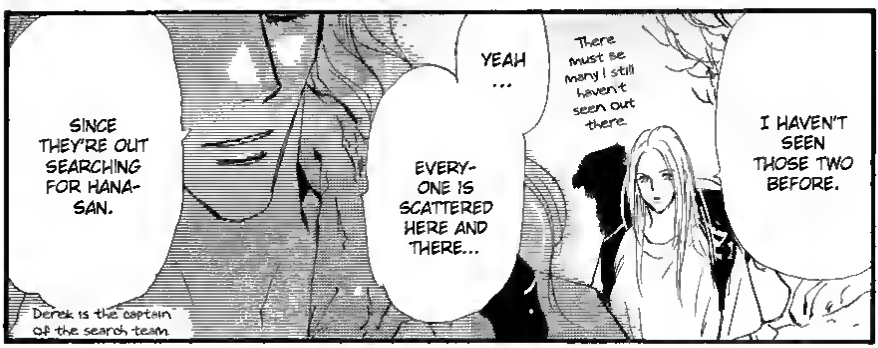

YOU'RE ...
AS SHARP AS EVER, AYU-SAN.
Of course I am.
THE ALTITUDE HAS DROPPED ...
AND THE GROUND HAS LEVELLED OUT TOO.
THEN ...
WE'RE PROBABLY CLOSE TO THE SEA.
IS THAT SO ...?
HYA!
WOOF
WOOF
WHAT IS IT ...
KURO-DA?
YOU CAN CATCH SOMETHING ON YOUR OWN IF YOU'RE HUNGRY.
Chuckle
WOOF
WOOF
I THINK HE JUST WANTS TO PLAY.

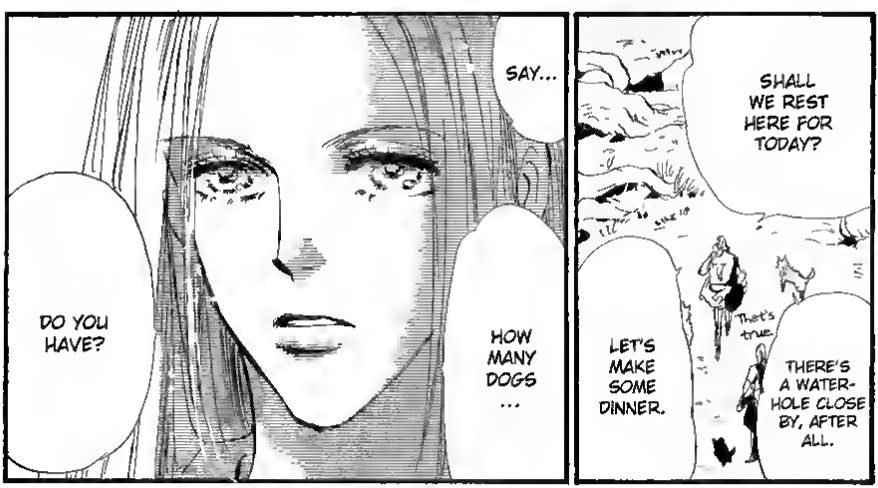

LIKE THIS STICK.
THROW SOMETHING?
TRY THROWING IT LONG.
WELL, FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD THROW SOMETHING.
PLAY ...?
WHAT AM I MEANT TO DO?

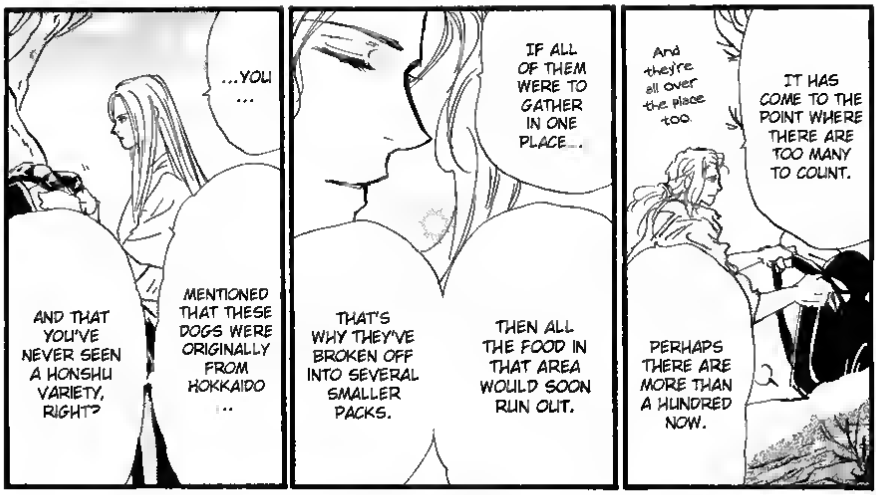

SWOOSH
?
TWOOOO
TMP TMP TMP

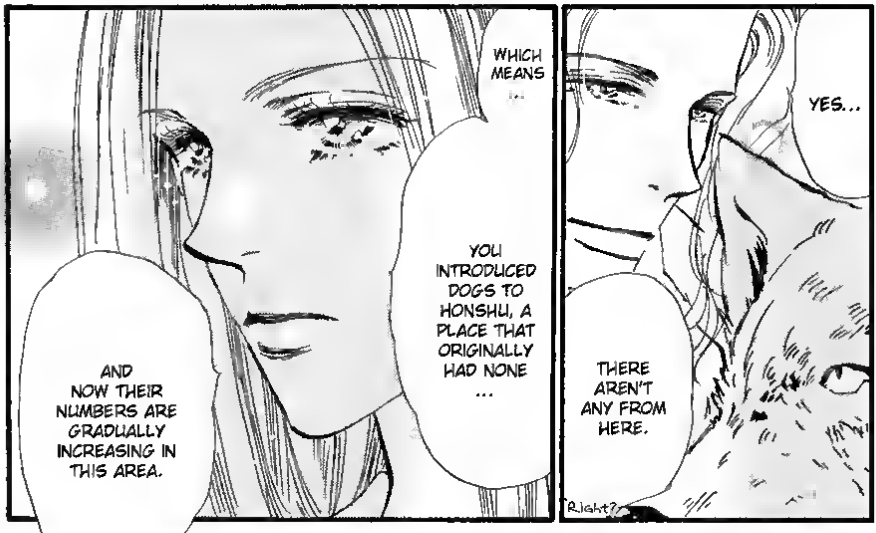

HOW IS THAT ENJOYABLE?
WOOF
Is he telling me to do it again?
WOOF
ARE YOU STUPID?
TMP TMP TMP
WOOOF
SNAP

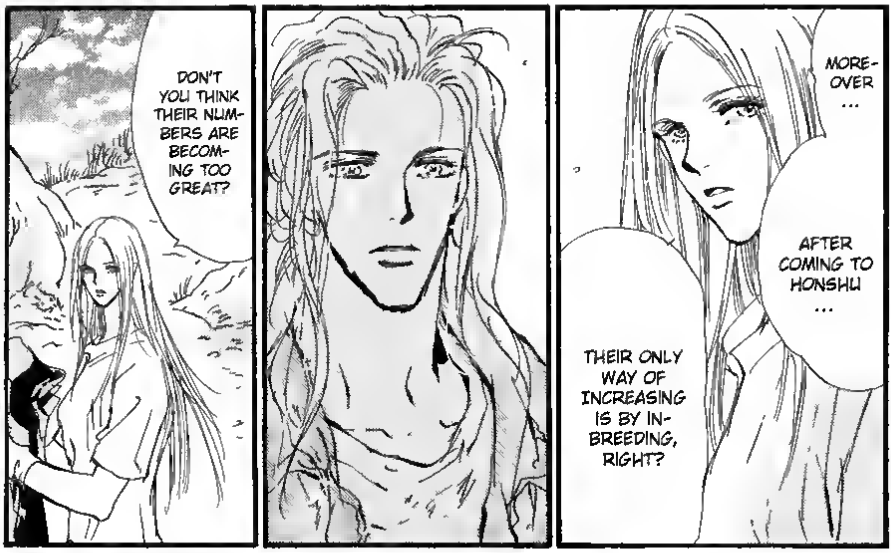

Until next time
Keep up the good work
See ya
Good luck
You're welcome.
GOOD JOB, YOU TWO. DID YOU FIND ANY CLUES AT ALL?
NOPE
THANK YOU, DEREK, TINO.
But here's a gift for you
TWIP
Hello!
Hello!
TWIP
Hey there

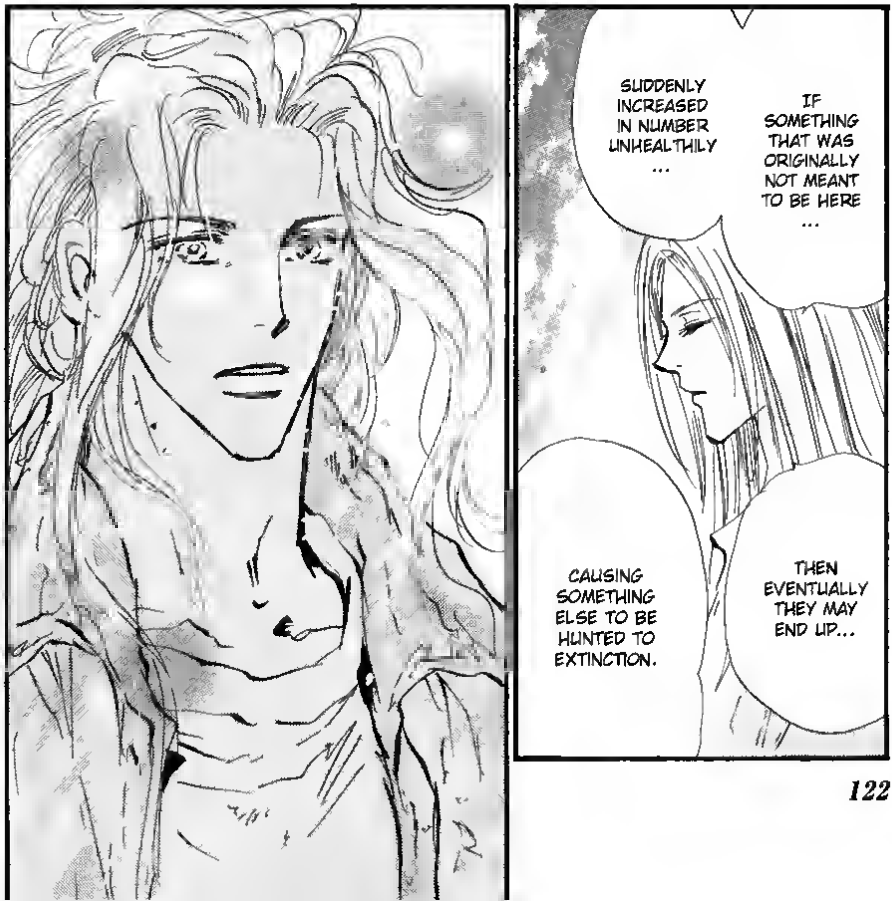

SINCE THEY'RE OUT SEARCHING FOR HANA-SAN.
Derek is the captain of the search team.
YEAH ...
EVERY-ONE IS SCATTERED HERE AND THERE...
There must be many I still haven't seen out there.
I HAVEN'T SEEN THOSE TWO BEFORE.


DO YOU HAVE?
SAY...
HOW MANY DOGS ...
SHALL WE REST HERE FOR TODAY?
LET'S MAKE SOME DINNER.
That's true.
THERE'S A WATER-HOLE CLOSE BY, AFTER ALL.


...YOU ...
MENTIONED THAT THESE DOGS WERE ORIGINALLY FROM HOKKAIDO ...
AND THAT YOU'VE NEVER SEEN A HONSHU VARIETY, RIGHT?
IF ALL OF THEM WERE TO GATHER IN ONE PLACE...
THEN ALL THE FOOD IN THAT AREA WOULD SOON RUN OUT.
THAT'S WHY THEY'VE BROKEN OFF INTO SEVERAL SMALLER PACKS.
IT HAS COME TO THE POINT WHERE THERE ARE TOO MANY TO COUNT.
And they're all over the place too.
PERHAPS THERE ARE MORE THAN A HUNDRED NOW.

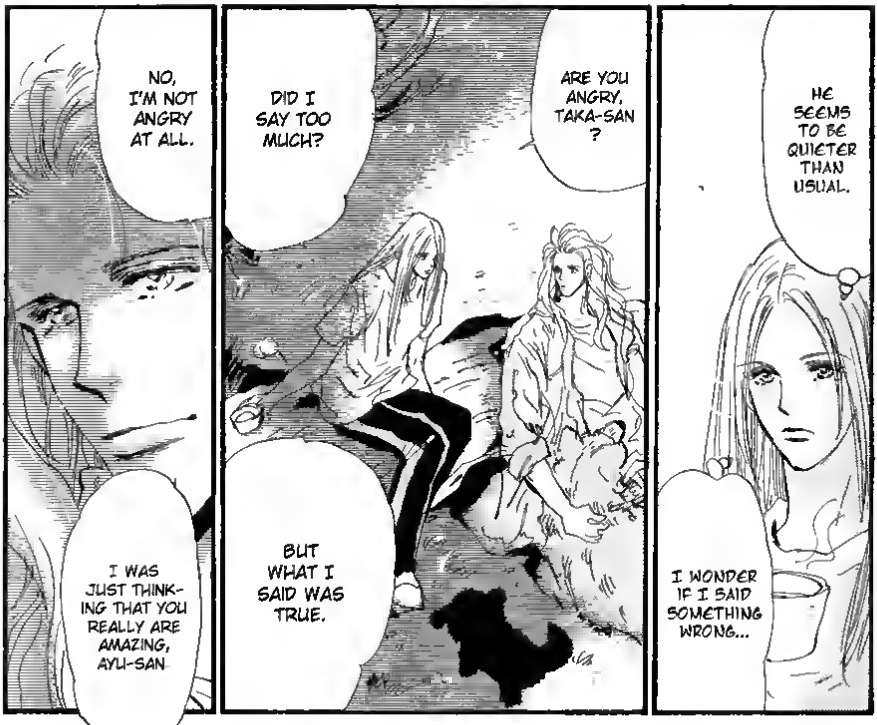

WHICH MEANS ...
YOU INTRODUCED DOGS TO HONSHU, A PLACE THAT ORIGINALLY HAD NONE ...
AND NOW THEIR NUMBERS ARE GRADUALLY INCREASING IN THIS AREA.
YES...
THERE AREN'T ANY FROM HERE.
Right?

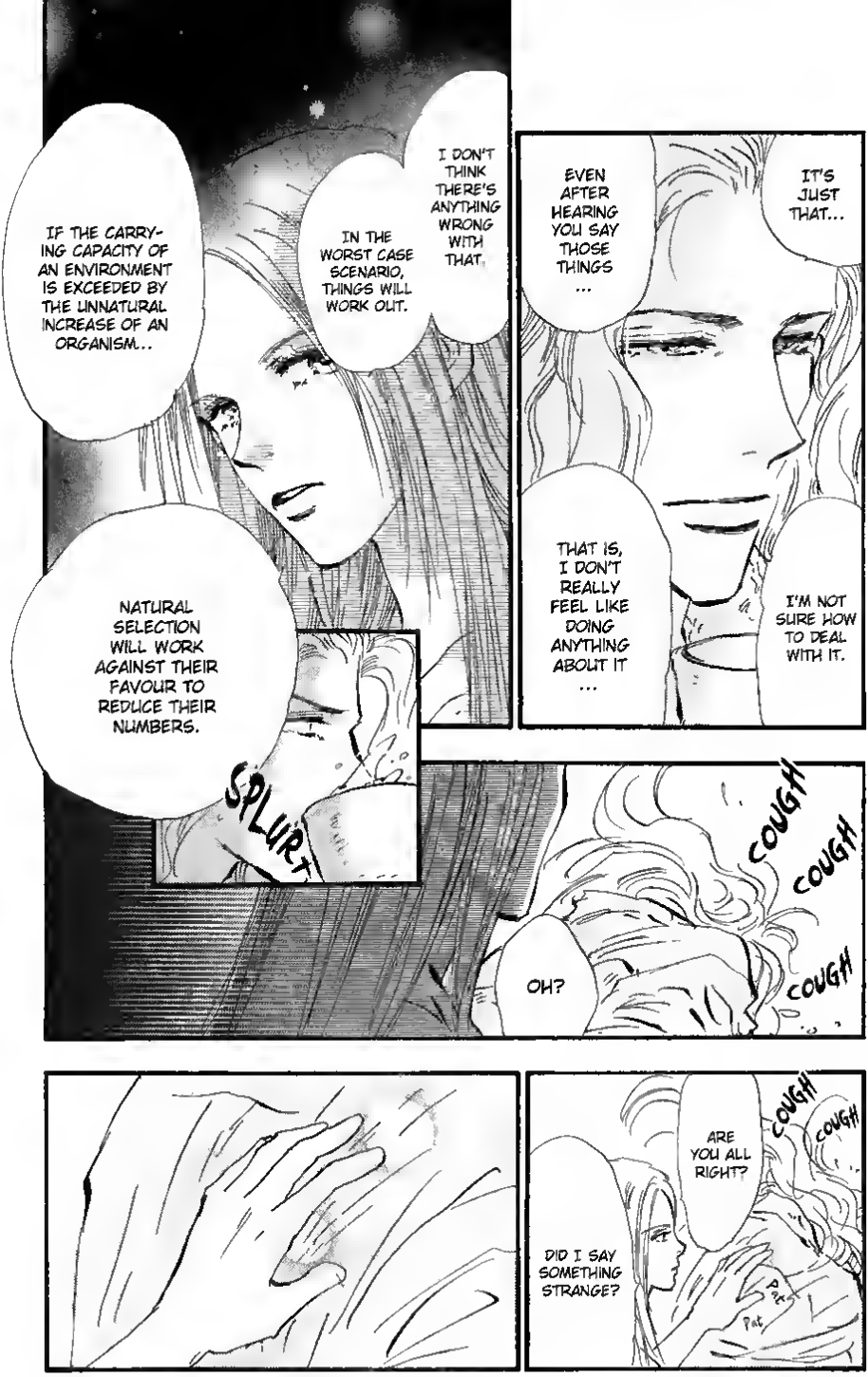

DON'T YOU THINK THEIR NUMBERS ARE BECOMING TOO GREAT?
MOREOVER ...
AFTER COMING TO HONSHU ...
THEIR ONLY WAY OF INCREASING IS BY INBREEDING, RIGHT?

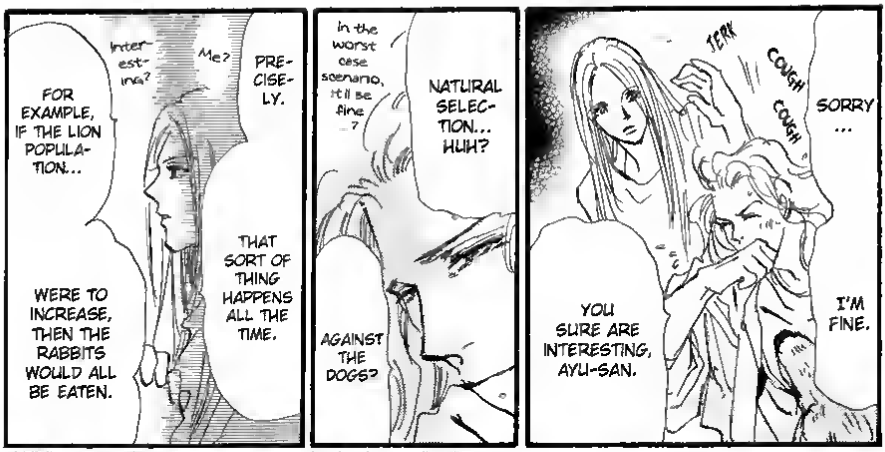

SUDDENLY INCREASED IN NUMBER UNHEALTHILY ...
IF SOMETHING THAT WAS ORIGINALLY NOT MEANT TO BE HERE ...
CAUSING SOMETHING ELSE TO BE HUNTED TO EXTINCTION.
THEN EVENTUALLY THEY MAY END UP...

HADN'T CROSSED MY MIND AT ALL.
...I'M SORRY ...
THE THOUGHT ...
WHINE
THEY PRO-TECTED ME..
SO I FELT SAFE ...
I...
WAS SIMPLY GLAD THAT THEY WERE THERE FOR ME
YOU HAD YOUR HANDS FULL JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE ON YOUR OWN, AFTER ALL.
I SUPPOSE IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.

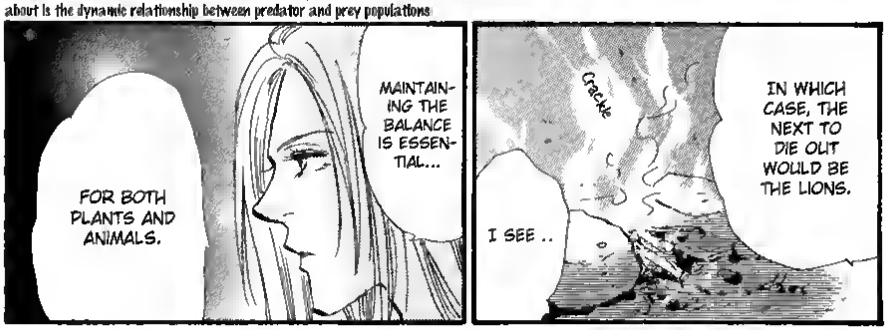
Crackle
Snap

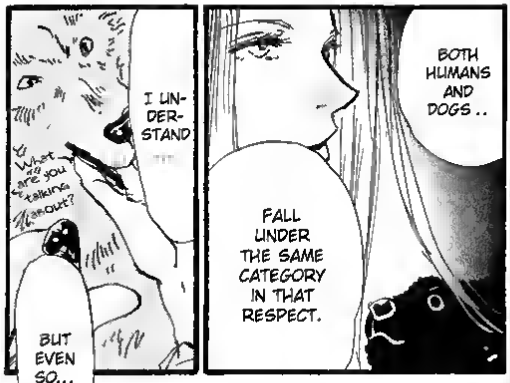

HE SEEMS TO BE QUIETER THAN USUAL.
I WONDER IF I SAID SOMETHING WRONG...
ARE YOU ANGRY, TAKA-SAN ?
DID I SAY TOO MUCH?
BUT WHAT I SAID WAS TRUE.
NO, I'M NOT ANGRY AT ALL.
I WAS JUST THINK-ING THAT YOU REALLY ARE AMAZING, AYU-SAN

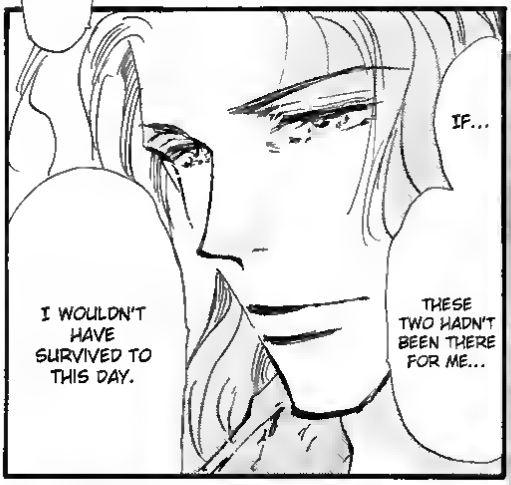

IF THE CARRYING CAPACITY OF AN ENVIRONMENT IS EXCEEDED BY THE UNNATURAL INCREASE OF AN ORGANISM...
IN THE WORST CASE SCENARIO, THINGS WILL WORK OUT.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
NATURAL SELECTION WILL WORK AGAINST THEIR FAVOUR TO REDUCE THEIR NUMBERS.
SPLURT
EVEN AFTER HEARING YOU SAY THOSE THINGS ...
IT'S JUST THAT...
THAT IS, I DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT ...
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.
OH?
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
DID I SAY SOMETHING STRANGE?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
COUGH
COUGH
PAT
PAT

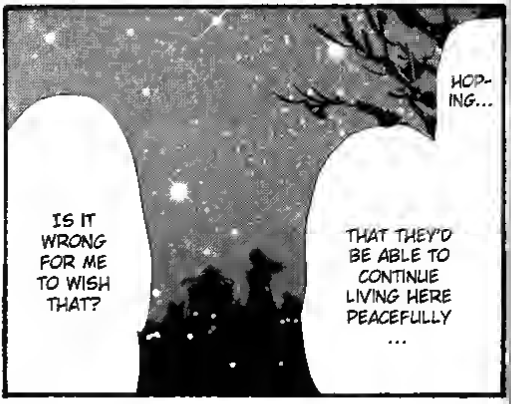


*T/N: The rabbit and lion is just an arbitrary example, what Ayu is really talking about is the dynamic relationship between predator and prey populations

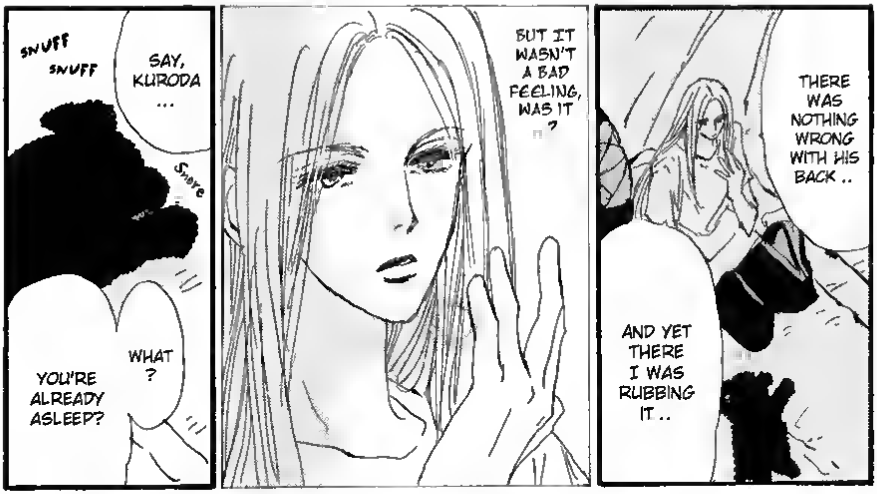

FOR BOTH PLANTS AND ANIMALS.
MAINTAINING THE BALANCE IS ESSENTIAL...
I SEE ..
Crackle
IN WHICH CASE, THE NEXT TO DIE OUT WOULD BE THE LIONS.

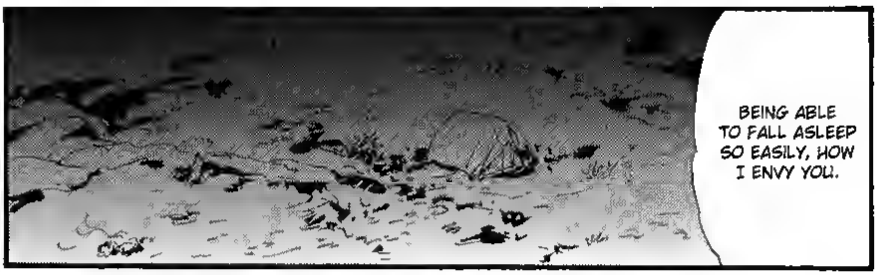

I UNDERSTAND
What are you talking about?
BOTH HUMANS AND DOGS ..
FALL UNDER THE SAME CATEGORY IN THAT RESPECT.
BUT EVEN SO...

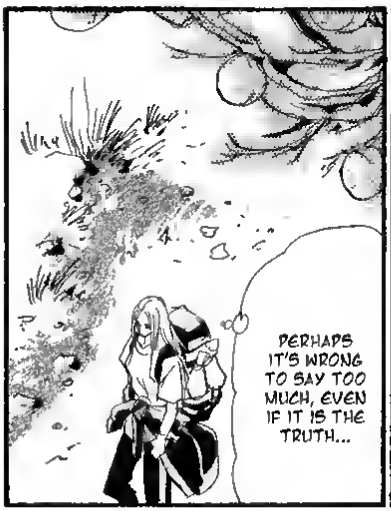

IF...
I WOULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED TO THIS DAY.
THESE TWO HADN'T BEEN THERE FOR ME...


HOPING...
IS IT WRONG FOR ME TO WISH THAT?
THAT THEY'D BE ABLE TO CONTINUE LIVING HERE PEACEFULLY ...

IF A FOREIGN SPECIES IS INTRODUCED ...
THE BALANCE OF THAT ECOSYSTEM WILL BE DISRUPTED.
BUT NATURE CAN USE MANY WAYS TO COPE WITH THE ISSUE...
AND ONCE AGAIN RESTORE THE BALANCE THAT WAS LOST.

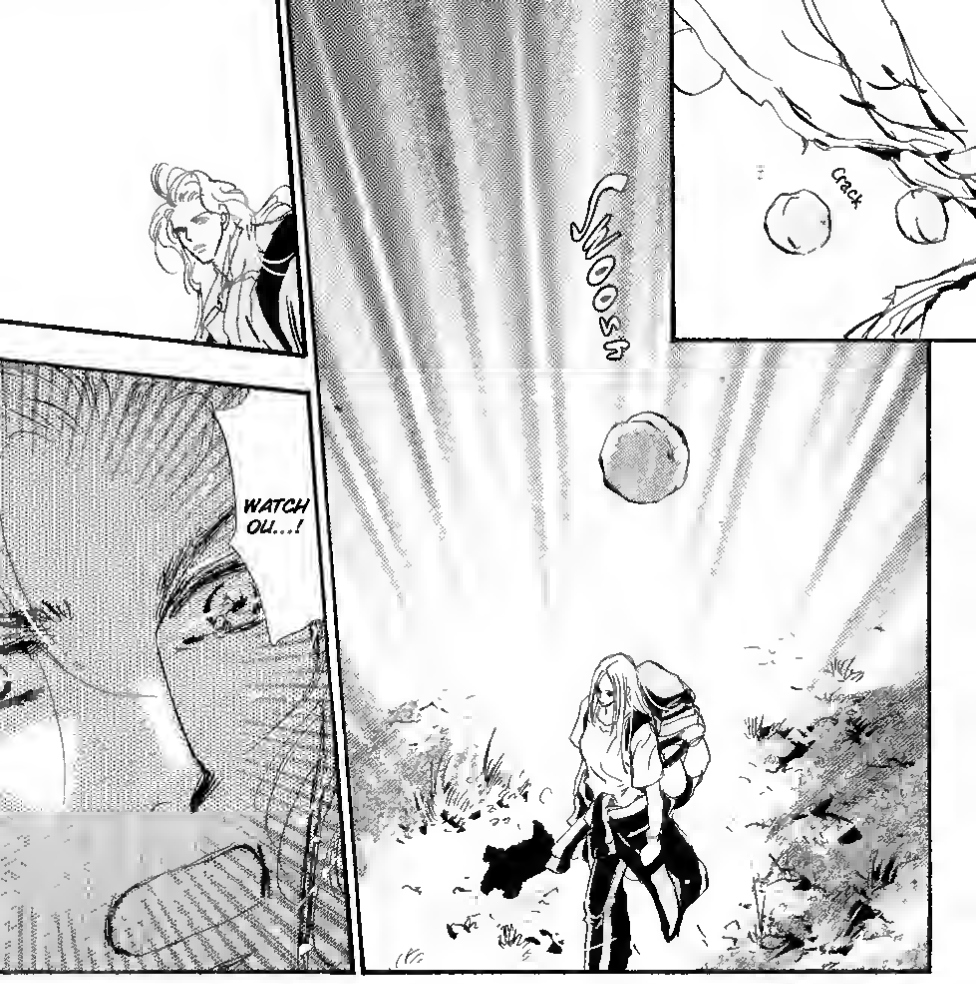

SNUFF
SNUFF
SAY, KURODA ...
Shake
YOU'RE ALREADY ASLEEP?
WHAT ?
BUT IT WASN'T A BAD FEELING, WAS IT ?
THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH HIS BACK ..
AND YET THERE I WAS RUBBING IT ..

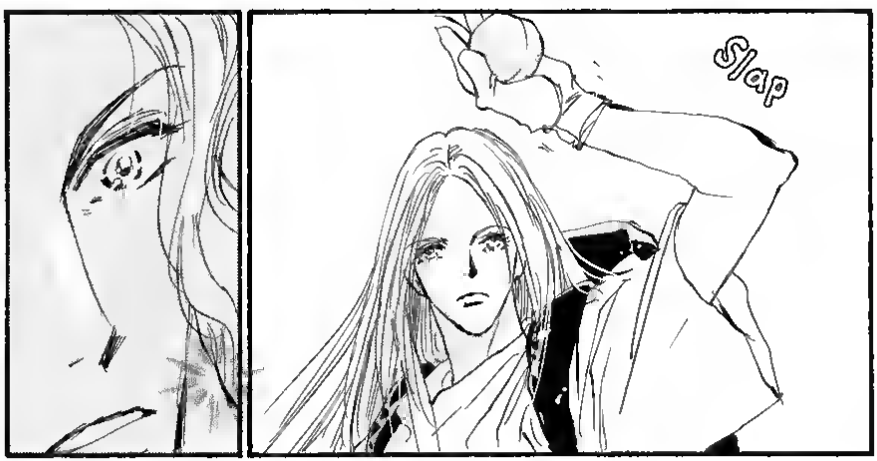

BEING ABLE TO FALL ASLEEP SO EASILY, HOW I ENVY YOU.

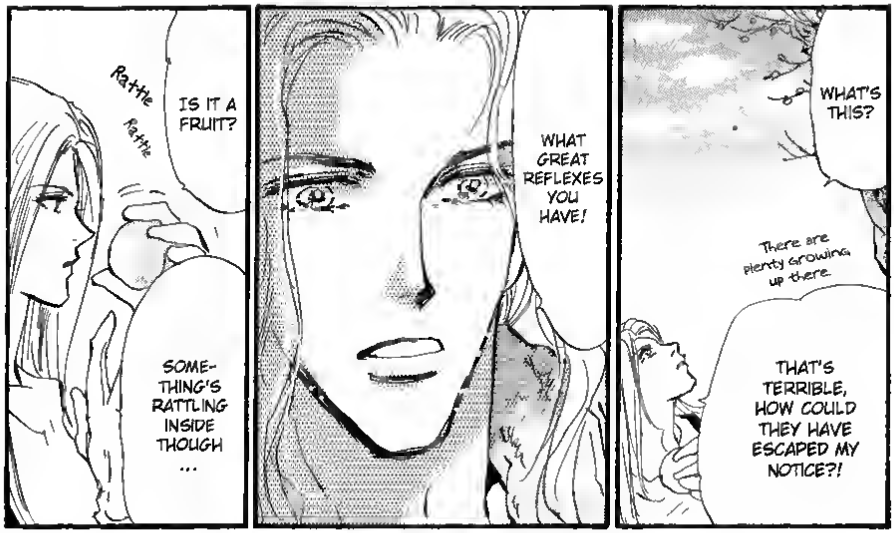

PERHAPS IT'S WRONG TO SAY TOO MUCH, EVEN IF IT IS THE TRUTH...

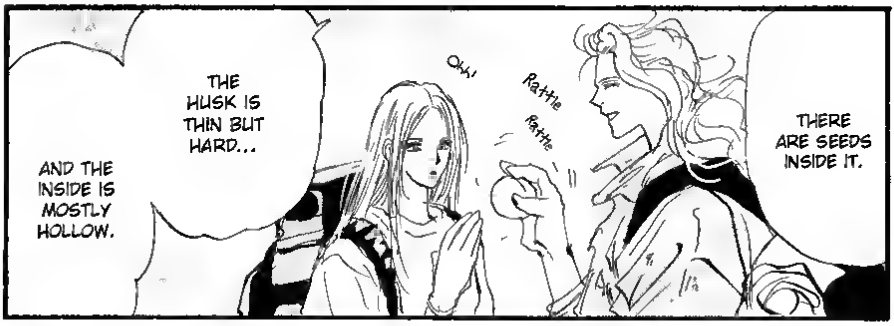
IT LOOKS AS IF HE HASN'T HAD MUCH SLEEP

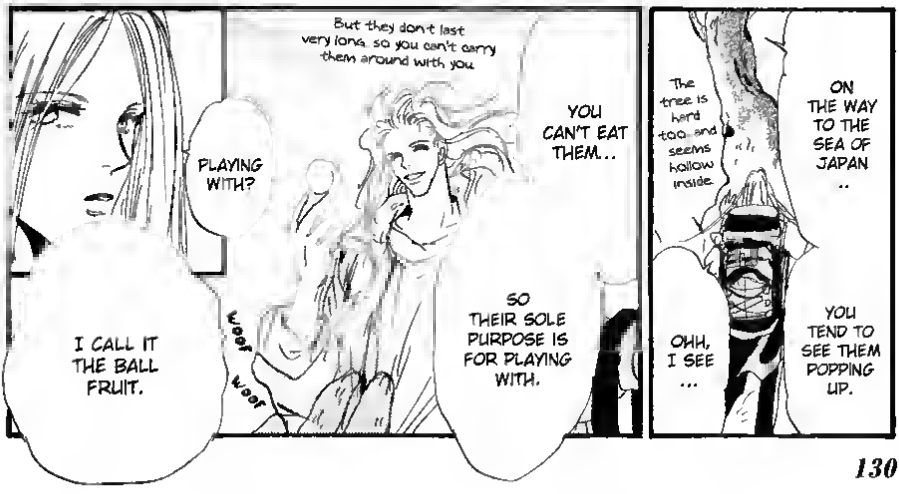
while checking out the plants of course
ALL RIGHT, LET'S KEEP UP THE PACE TODAY TOO.
WE'LL PROBABLY CATCH A GLIMPSE OF THE SEA SOON.


Crack
Swoosh
WATCH OU...!


Slap


Rattle
Rattle
IS IT A FRUIT?
SOME-THING'S RATTLING INSIDE THOUGH ...
WHAT GREAT REFLEXES YOU HAVE!
WHAT'S THIS?
There are plenty growing up there.
THAT'S TERRIBLE, HOW COULD THEY HAVE ESCAPED MY NOTICE?!


THE HUSK IS THIN BUT HARD...
AND THE INSIDE IS MOSTLY HOLLOW.
Oh,
Rattle
Rattle
THERE ARE SEEDS INSIDE IT.


But they don't last very long, so you can't carry them around with you.
PLAYING WITH?
I CALL IT THE BALL FRUIT.
woof
woof
YOU CAN'T EAT THEM...
SO THEIR SOLE PURPOSE IS FOR PLAYING WITH.
The tree is hard too, and seems hollow inside.
ON THE WAY TO THE SEA OF JAPAN ..
OHH, I SEE ...
YOU TEND TO SEE THEM POPPING UP.

SWOOSH
FU-BUKI!
SNAP
RUFF
SWISH
AWOO
YOU TOO, MIT-SURU-SAN!
I brought it back.
WOW.
Hmm

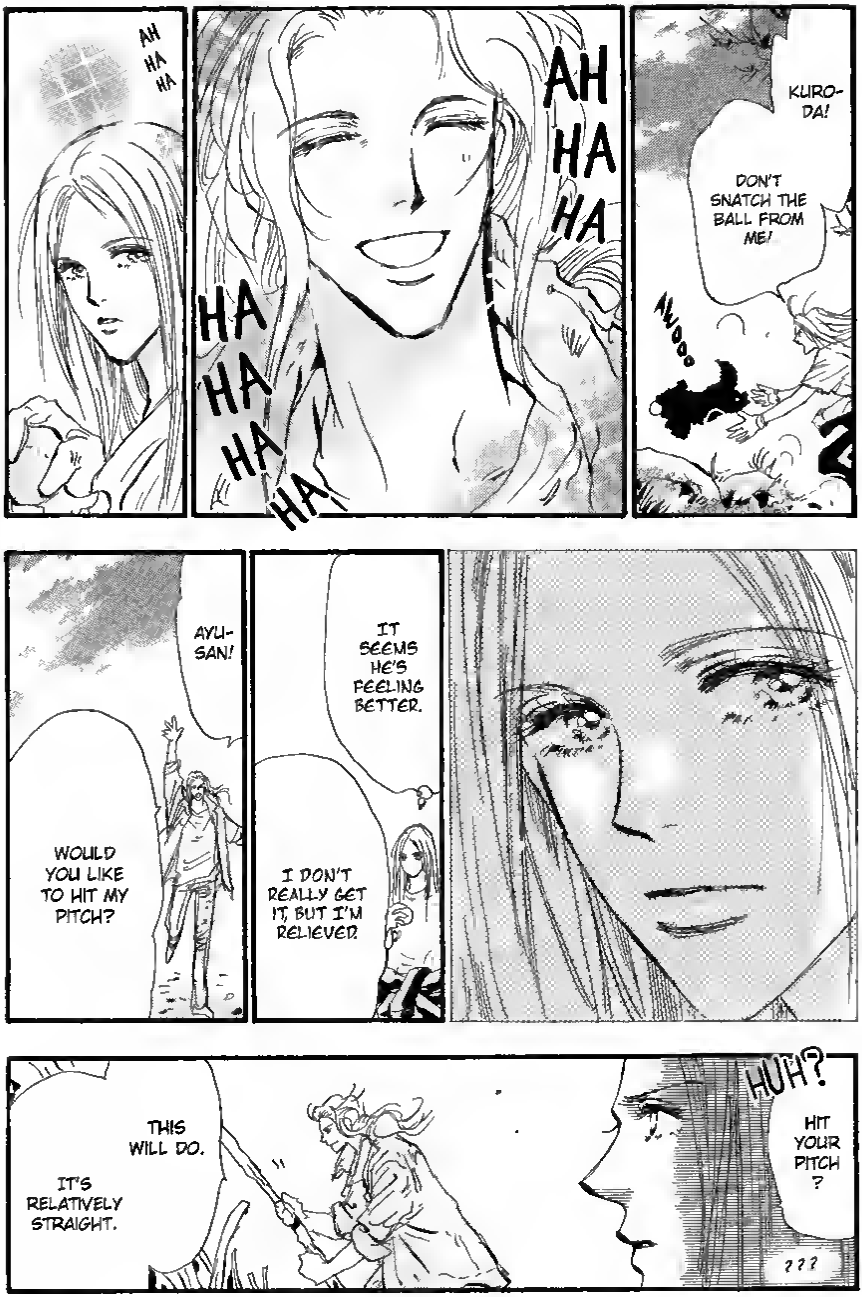
I wonder what that skill would be useful for.
THEY HAVE RATHER HIGH ATHLETIC ABILITY.
SNAP
I'M CAPABLE OF DOING THAT MUCH TOO.
Thank you
Here you go.
IT'S YOUR TURN TO THROW.
AYU-SAN...
HUH?
TO THE SKY!
TO YOU?
You want to copy the dogs?
THROW IT?

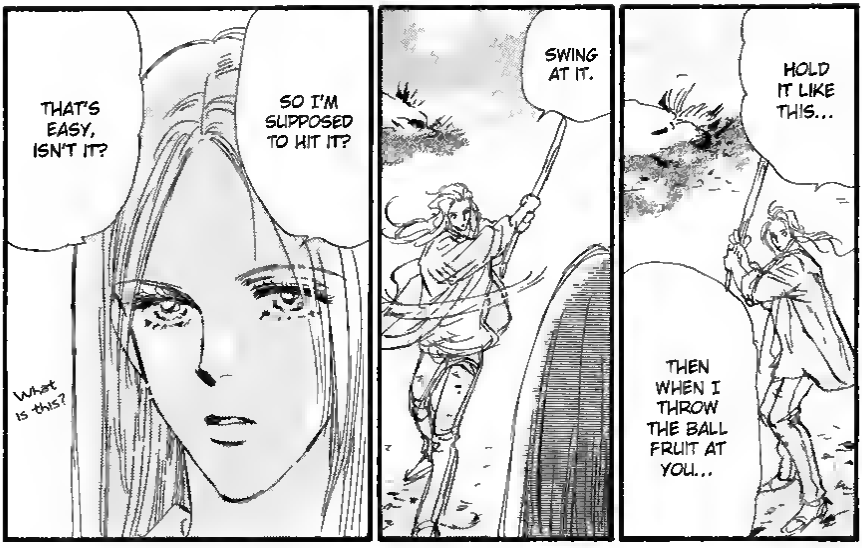
Swish
?
Pat
THROW IT FURTHER THIS TIME.
Swish
ONCE MORE PLEASE!
Oh

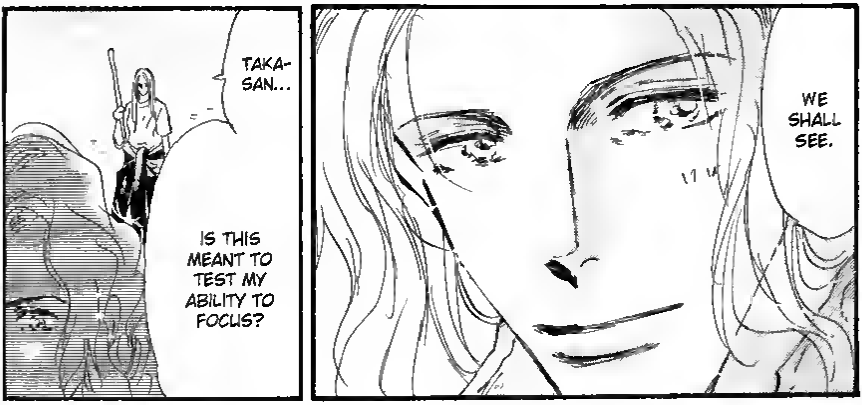
TMP
TMP
SWOOSH
CRU
NCH
SLAP

SLAP
DE-FENCE ?
DEFENCE WAS ONE OF MY STRONG POINTS TOO!
Oops, my hand slipped
I'm no match for Fuuki though
YOUR RE-FLEXES ARE AMAZING!
AYU-SAN!
WHY DON'T WE PLAY SOME CATCH?
EVEN BAN-CHAN, ALTHOUGH HE LOOKS CALM AND GENTLE...
HIS PHYSICAL ENDURANCE ISN'T TO BE TRIFLED WITH.
You too. Although you don't appear so, your physical capabilities are surprisingly high.
OF COURSE THEY ARE.
IF WE WEREN'T, WE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN CHOSEN.
EVERY-ONE IS LIKE THAT IN OUR TEAM.

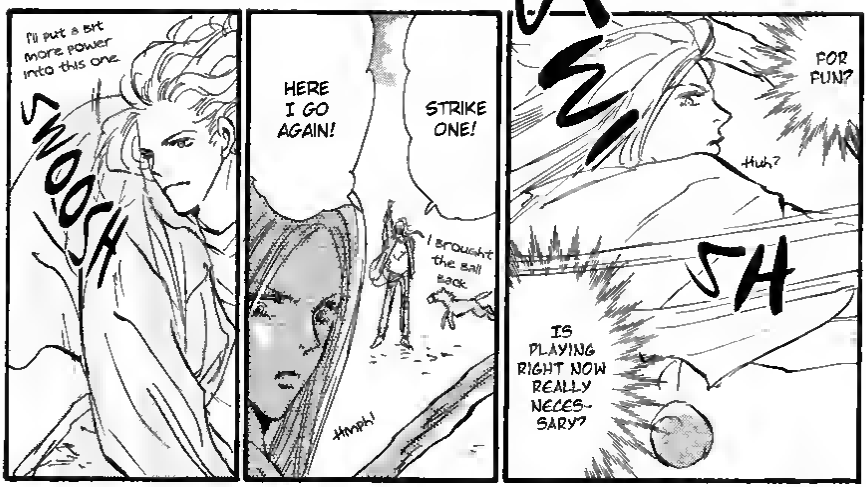
SWISH
PAT
SWISH
Catch?
This?
AM I DOING, I WONDER?
SWISH
Is this some sort of training?
JUST WHAT...
PAT
Nice catch, Ayu-san!
You're really good at this.
EXACTLY AM I DOING RIGHT NOW?
Sorry my hand slipped a bit!
WHAT...
SNAP

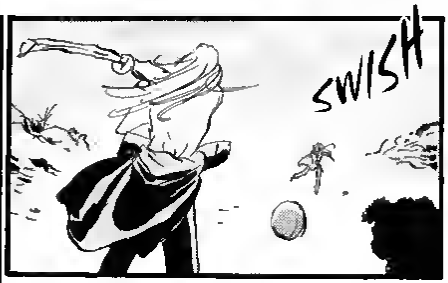

AH HA HA
AH HA HA
HA HA HA
KURO-DA!
DON'T SNATCH THE BALL FROM ME!
AYU-SAN!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HIT MY PITCH?
IT SEEMS HE'S FEELING BETTER.
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT I'M RELIEVED.
HUH?
HIT YOUR PITCH?
???
THIS WILL DO.
IT'S RELATIVELY STRAIGHT.

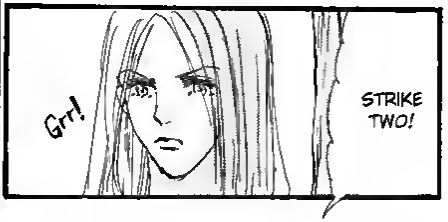

THAT'S EASY, ISN'T IT?
SO I'M SUPPOSED TO HIT IT?
What is this?
SWING AT IT.
HOLD IT LIKE THIS...
THEN WHEN I THROW THE BALL FRUIT AT YOU...


TAKA-SAN...
IS THIS MEANT TO TEST MY ABILITY TO FOCUS?
WE SHALL SEE.

THIS IS JUST FOR FUN.
AYU-SAN...


I'll put a bit more power into this one.
SWOOSH
HERE I GO AGAIN!
STRIKE ONE!
I brought the ball back.
Hmph!
SWI
SH
FOR FUN?
Huh?
IS PLAYING RIGHT NOW REALLY NECES-SARY?

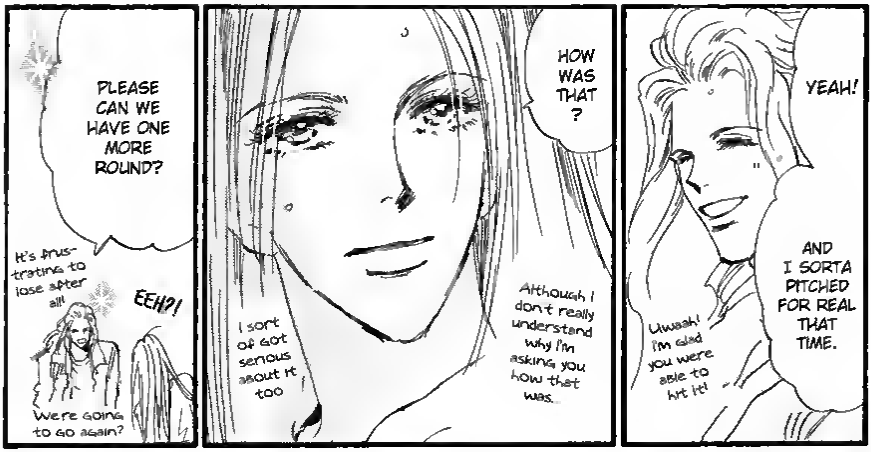

SWISH

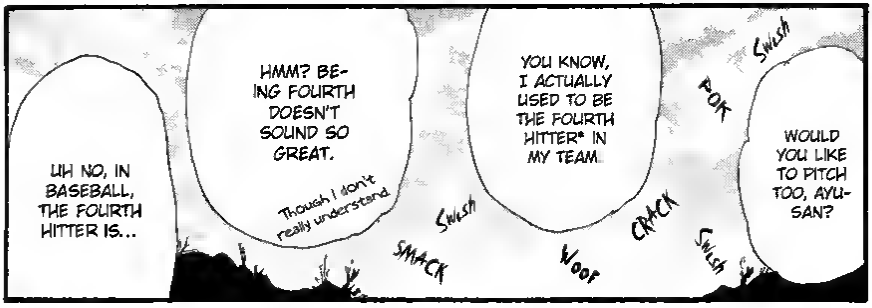

Grr.
STRIKE TWO!

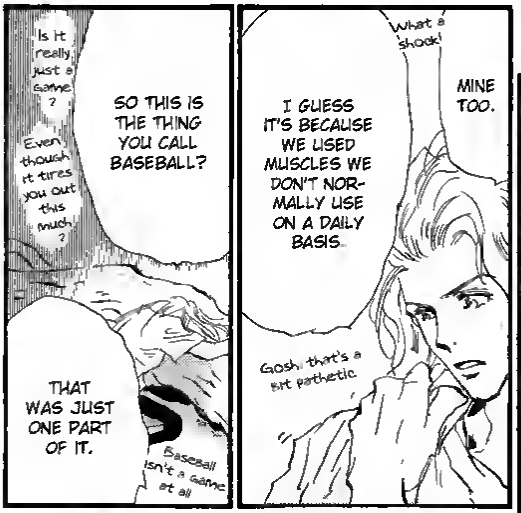
IT'S MY JOB TO DEFINITELY MAKE YOU STRIKE.
Sorry if that seems disagree-able.
IF YOU CAN'T HIT THE BALL THIS TIME, YOU'LL GET CAUGHT OUT ON THREE STRIKES.

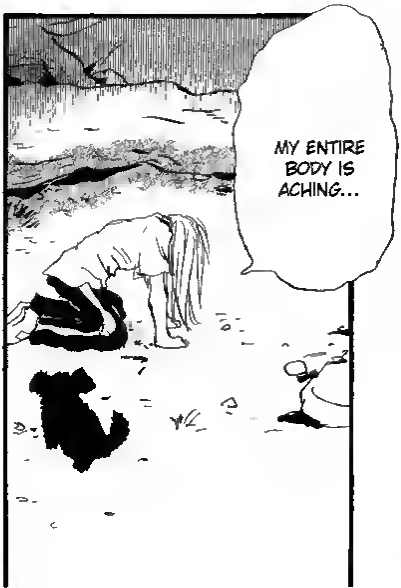
WOAH
THUD
POK
WOOSH
SWOOSH
I HIT IT!
Unfortu-nately,
THAT WAS A FOUL.
You have to hit it forward
I'LL PITCH AGAIN.
I won't lose easily
THIS TIME I MIGHT DO IT FOR REAL.

CRA
ACK
I DID IT!
Left field!

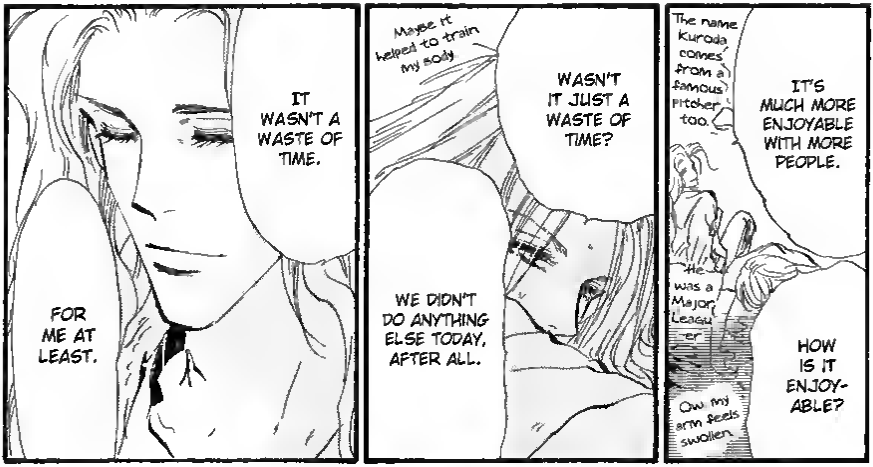

PLEASE CAN WE HAVE ONE MORE ROUND?
It's frustrating to lose after all!
EEH?!
We're going to go again?
I sort of got serious about it too
HOW WAS THAT?
Although I don't really understand why I'm asking you how that was...
YEAH!
AND I SORTA PITCHED FOR REAL THAT TIME.
Uwaah! I'm glad you were able to hit it!

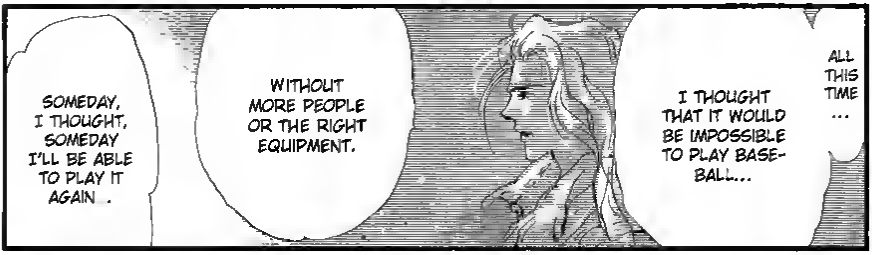


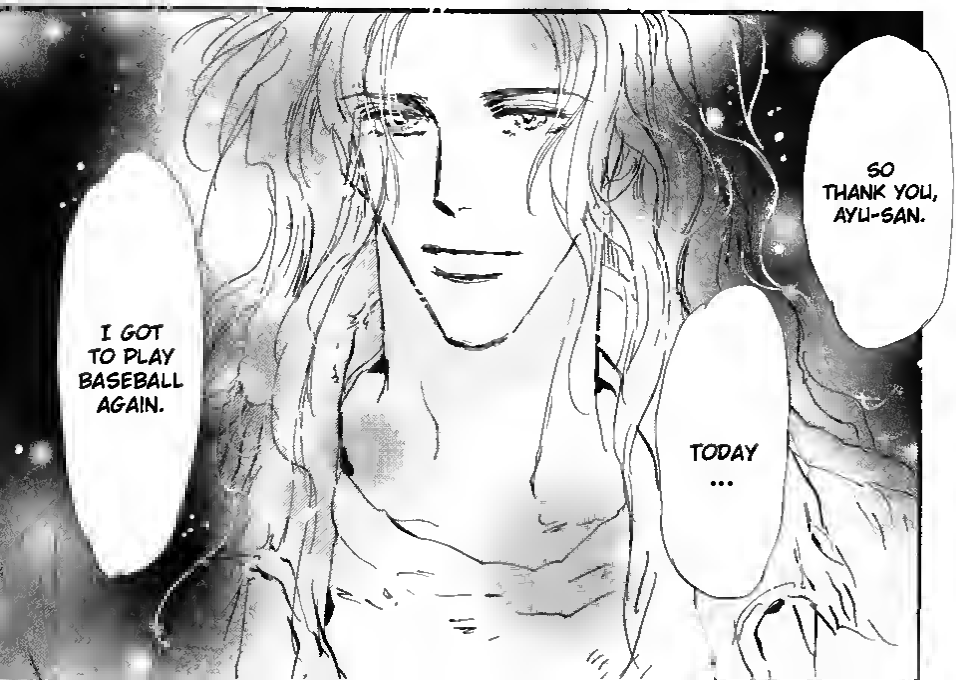

Is it really just a game?
Even though it tires you out this much?
SO THIS IS THE THING YOU CALL BASEBALL?
THAT WAS JUST ONE PART OF IT.
Baseball isn't a game at all
What a shock!
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE WE USED MUSCLES WE DON'T NORMALLY USE ON A DAILY BASIS.
MINE TOO.
Gosh, that's a bit pathetic



*T/N. Where Aramaki left off: the fourth hitter in baseball is also known as the 'clean-up hitter' and is usually the most powerful hitter in the team. For example, the first three hitters will fill up the three bases, then, in the ideal situation the fourth hitter will clear all the bases with a grand slam, thereby scoring four runs. Basically Aramaki seems to be an all-round perfect baseball player in terms of pitching, hitting and defence—

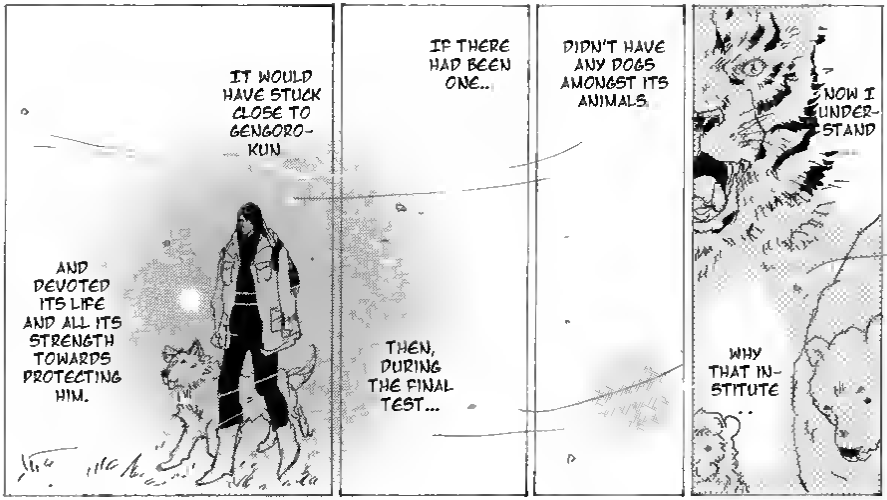

IT WASN'T A WASTE OF TIME.
FOR ME AT LEAST.
Maybe it helped to train my body
WASN'T IT JUST A WASTE OF TIME?
WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING ELSE TODAY, AFTER ALL.
The name Kuroda comes from a famous pitcher, too.
He was a Major Leaguer
Ow, my arm feels swollen.
IT'S MUCH MORE ENJOYABLE WITH MORE PEOPLE.
HOW IS IT ENJOYABLE?


SOMEDAY, I THOUGHT, SOMEDAY I'LL BE ABLE TO PLAY IT AGAIN.
WITHOUT MORE PEOPLE OR THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT.
I THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PLAY BASEBALL...
ALL THIS TIME ...

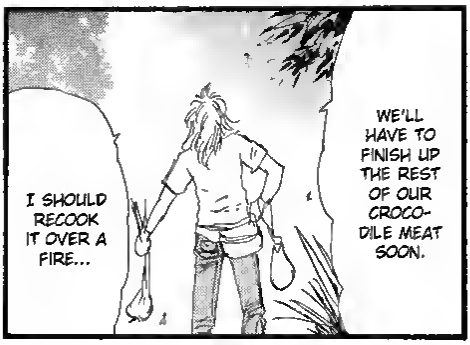

I GOT TO PLAY BASEBALL AGAIN.
TODAY ...
SO THANK YOU, AYU-SAN.

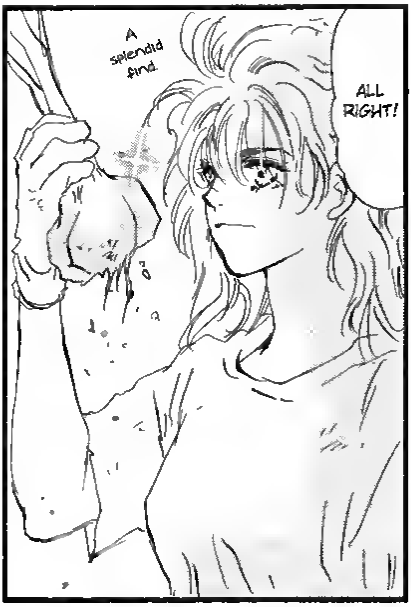
NOW I FEEL AS IF...
MY LIFE STILL HAS A LONG WAY YET TO GO.
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU SMILE TOO, AYU-SAN ...
zzz
SHE'S ALL WORN OUT.
Sh-
WHINE
On guard duty
The fighting spirit of Summer A is strong; they really hate to lose.
Which is why they would make great sportsmen.

BUT THIS FEELING OF EXHAUSTION IS SOMEHOW COMFORTING ...
I CAN'T GET UP AT ALL ...
I COMPLETELY FAILED TO STAY ALERT TO DANGER!
THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE THAT SOME WILD ANIMAL MIGHT ATTACK US.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S UNLIKELY THAT THIS PERSON WOULD DO ANYTHING TO ME...
NO WAY! I FELL ASLEEP ?!
I FELL ASLEEP WITHOUT REALISING.
I CAN'T BELIEVE ...
SURVIVED ALL THOSE YEARS...
MAYBE... I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ...?
SINCE THE DOGS ARE HERE ...
SLEEPING AGAINST HIS DOGS LIKE THIS.
SO THIS IS HOW TAKA-SAN ...


IT WOULD HAVE STUCK CLOSE TO GENGORO-KUN
AND DEVOTED ITS LIFE AND ALL ITS STRENGTH TOWARDS PROTECTING HIM.
IF THERE HAD BEEN ONE..
THEN, DURING THE FINAL TEST...
DIDN'T HAVE ANY DOGS AMONGST ITS ANIMALS.
NOW I UNDER-STAND
WHY THAT IN-STITUTE ..

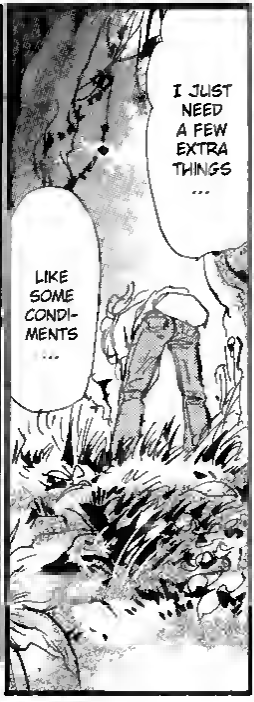
A SERIOUS INCONVEN-IENCE TO THE TEACHERS...
THAT WOULD HAVE UNDOUBTED-LY BEEN..
I'M SURE...


I SHOULD RECOOK IT OVER A FIRE...
WE'LL HAVE TO FINISH UP THE REST OF OUR CROCO-DILE MEAT SOON.


A splendid find
ALL RIGHT!

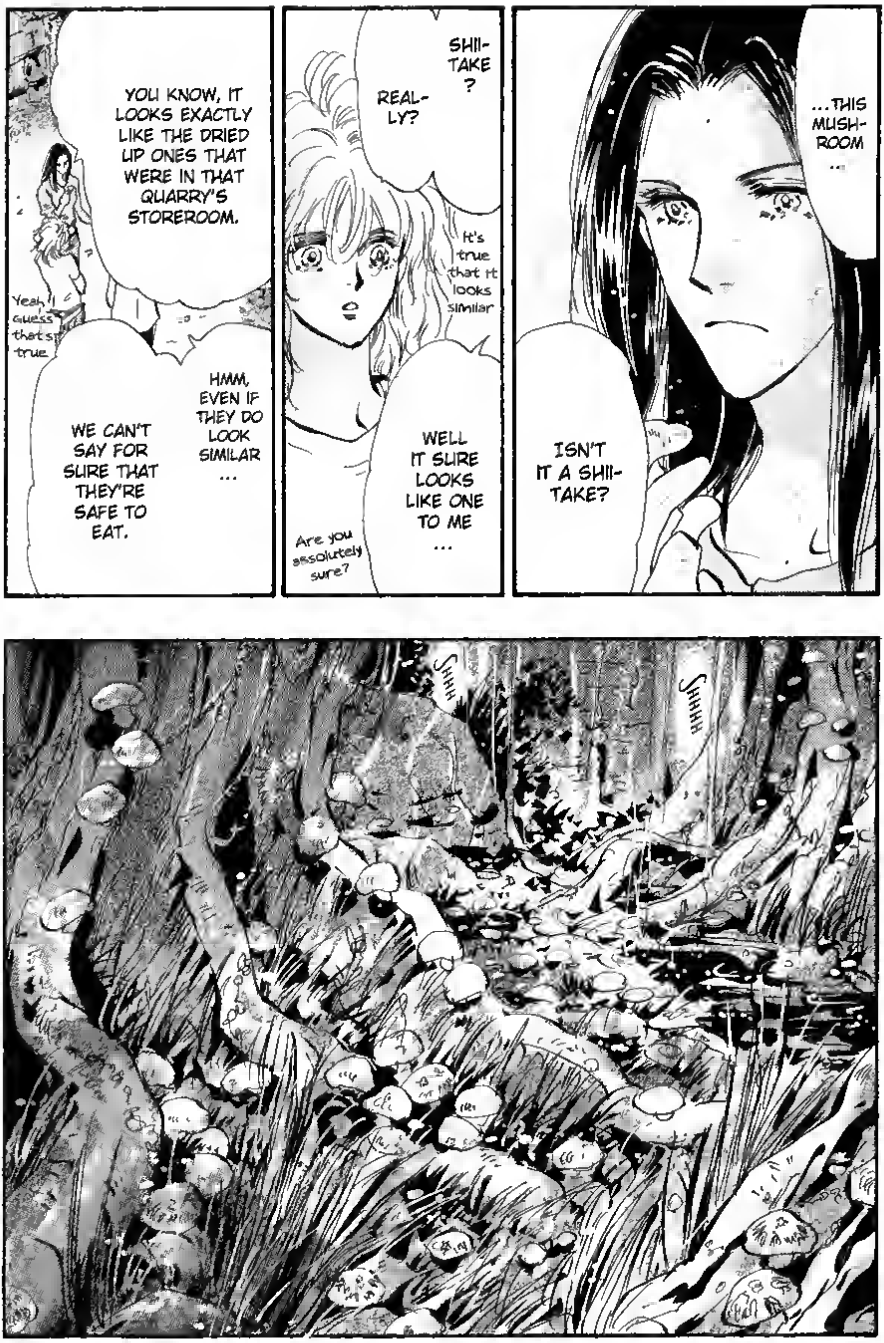
I WONDER IF THEY'LL GO WELL TOGETHER ...
I'LL MAKE SOME SUNNY-SIDE UP FRIED EGGS TOO ...

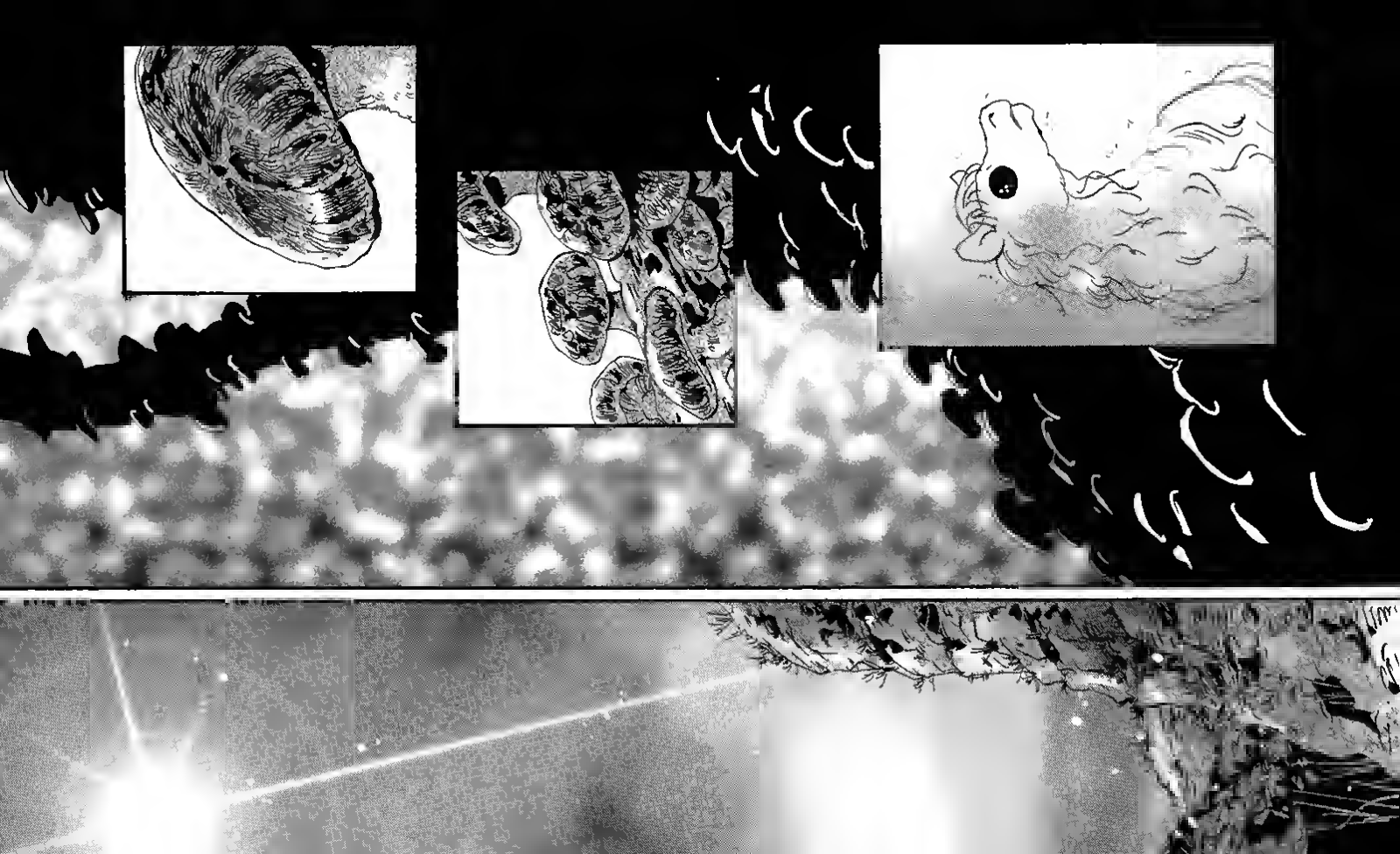
HUH?


I JUST NEED A FEW EXTRA THINGS ...
LIKE SOME CONDI-MENTS ...

MUSH-ROOMS !
They're so tiny!
How adorable!
I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY IN THIS AREA TILL NOW
WHAT A RARE SIGHT ...
BUT MUSH-ROOMS ...
ARE PRETTY DANGER-OUS...
SO I'LL RULE THEM OUT.
WHIMPER
WHIMPER
WHAT'S WRONG?
HAS SOME-THING ...
SPOOKED HIM?
Tremble
Tremble
Tremble
I TOLD YOU, YOU NEED TO GO BACK TO YOUR HERD!
NEEEIGH
They might leave without you!

THE MUSH-ROOMS ...
ARE IN-CREAS-ING!
OH?
What shall we eat today?
AWW, IT'LL BE NICE IF THEY WERE EDIBLE.
We could test a little bit, but that's still a pretty frightening idea
I WONDER IF THEY'RE EDIBLE ..
...HEY, COME TO THINK OF IT, HANA ...
I brought one with me
THOUGH I HADN'T SEEN THEM AT ALL TILL RECENTLY.
I AGREE, THERE NEVER USED TO BE THIS MANY IN THIS AREA.
AH! YEAH ...
I'VE NOTICED THE MUSH-ROOMS TOO.


...THIS MUSHROOM ...
ISN'T IT A SHII-TAKE?
SHII-TAKE ?
REAL-LY?
It's true that it looks similar
WELL IT SURE LOOKS LIKE ONE TO ME ...
Are you absolutely sure?
HMM, EVEN IF THEY DO LOOK SIMILAR ...
YOU KNOW, IT LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE THE DRIED UP ONES THAT WERE IN THAT QUARRY'S STOREROOM.
Yeah, I guess that's true.
WE CAN'T SAY FOR SURE THAT THEY'RE SAFE TO EAT.
SHHHH
SHHHH



7 SEEDS

by Tamura Yumi

Chapter 116

Scanned by K
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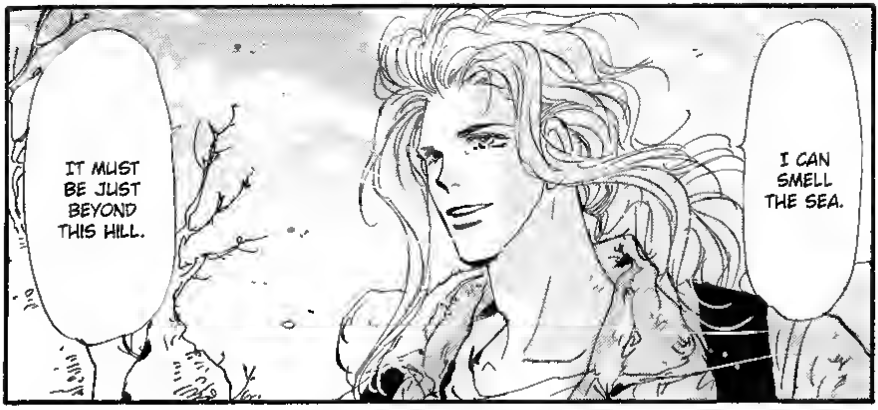
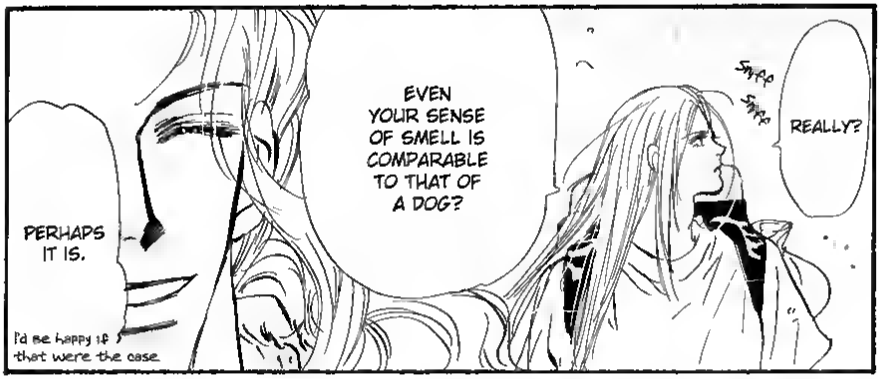
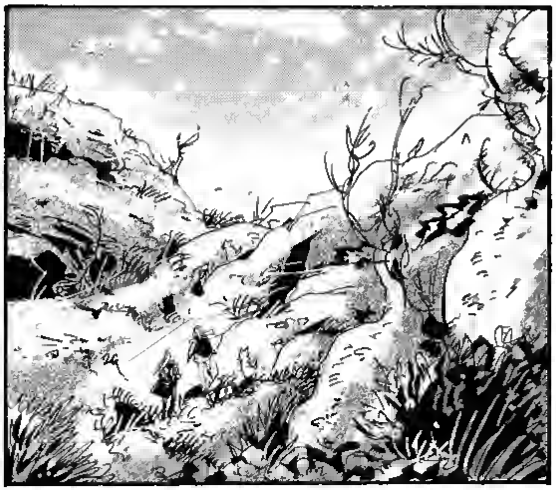

I CAN SMELL THE SEA.
IT MUST BE JUST BEYOND THIS HILL.

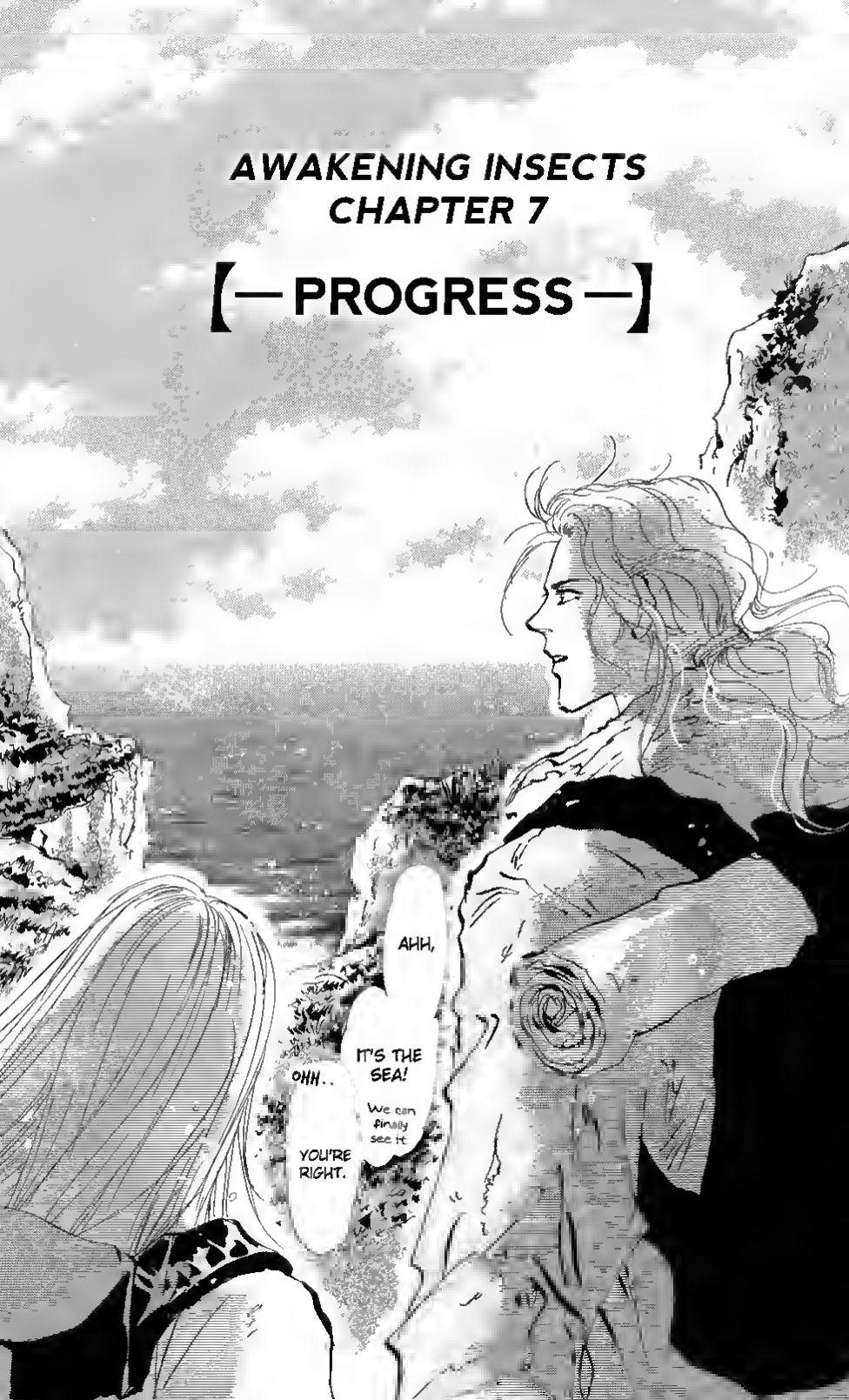

REALLY?
SNIFF SNIFF
EVEN YOUR SENSE OF SMELL IS COMPARABLE TO THAT OF A DOG?
PERHAPS IT IS.
I'd be happy if that were the case.

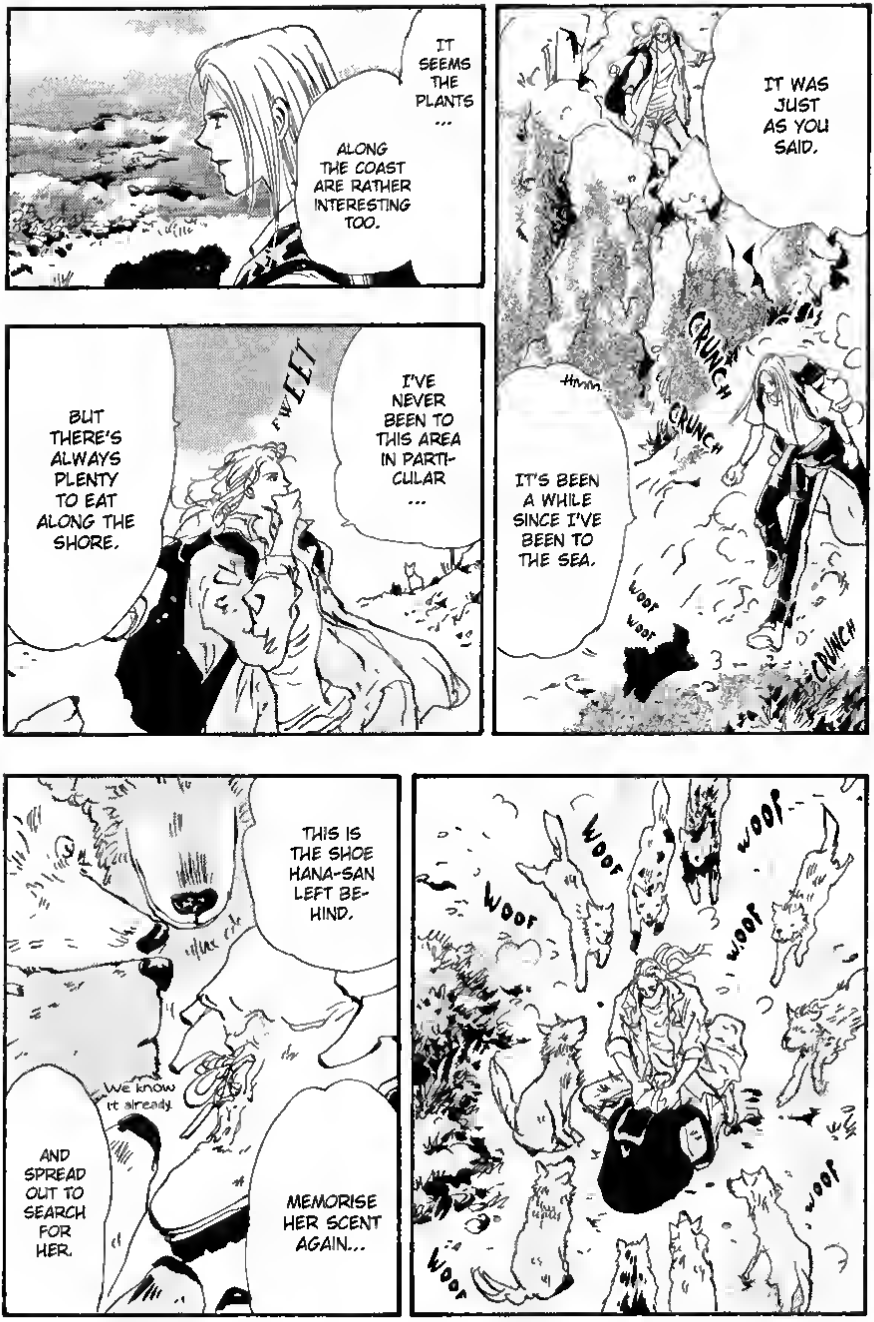
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF



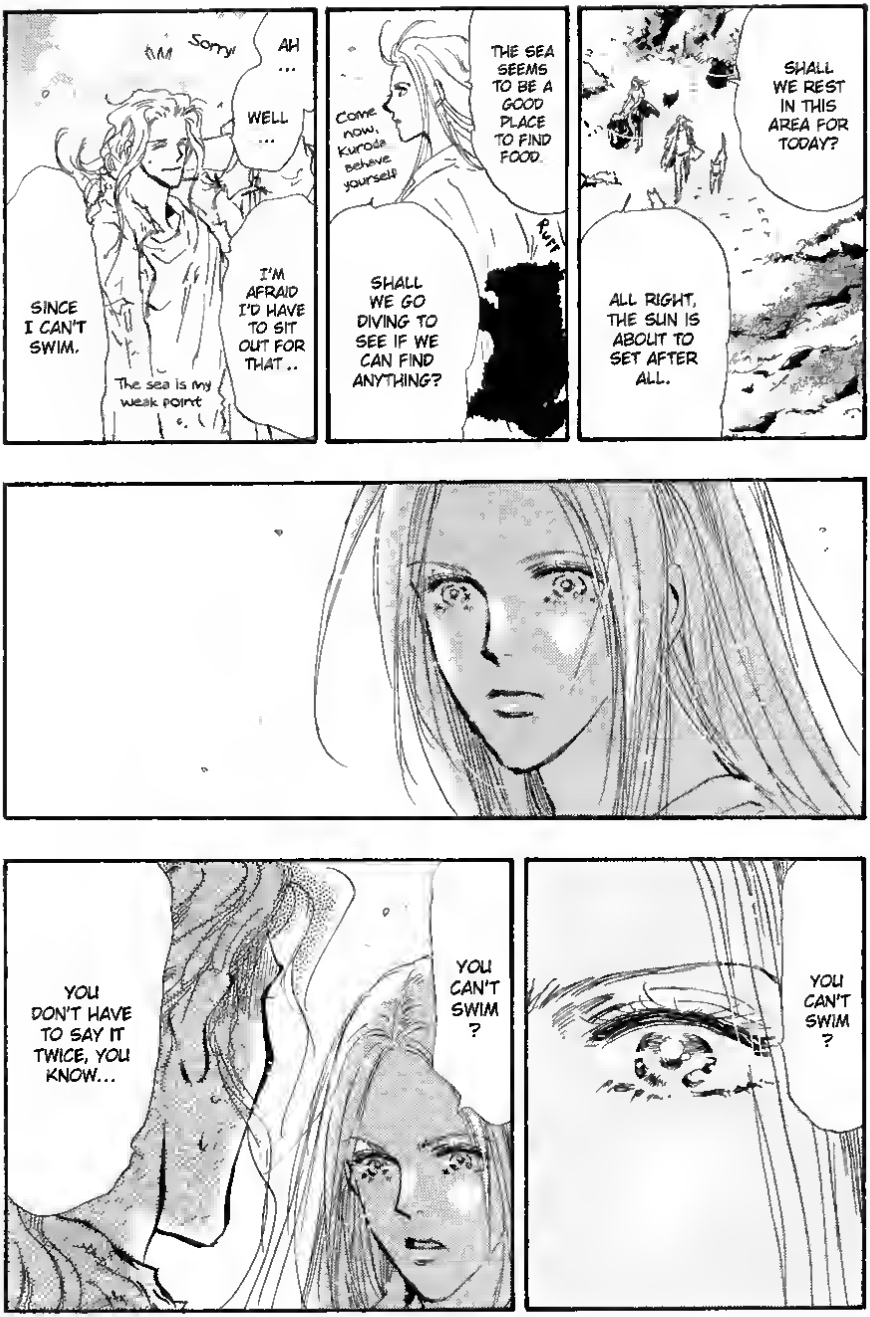
AWAKENING INSECTS
CHAPTER 7

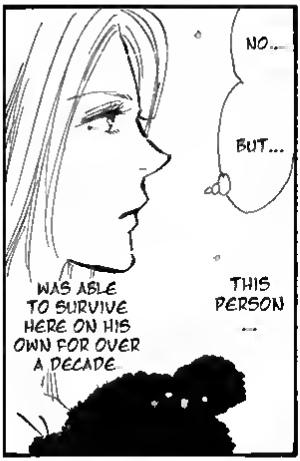
【—PROGRESS—】

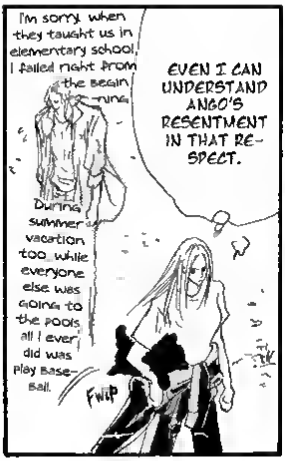


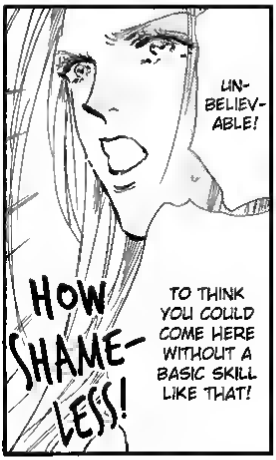

IT SEEMS THE PLANTS ...
ALONG THE COAST ARE RATHER INTERESTING TOO.
IT WAS JUST AS YOU SAID.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
Hmm
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN TO THE SEA.
WOOF WOOF
CRUNCH
I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS AREA IN PARTICULAR ...
FWEET
BUT THERE'S ALWAYS PLENTY TO EAT ALONG THE SHORE.
THIS IS THE SHOE HANA-SAN LEFT BEHIND.
We know it already.
AND SPREAD OUT TO SEARCH FOR HER.
MEMORISE HER SCENT AGAIN...
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF

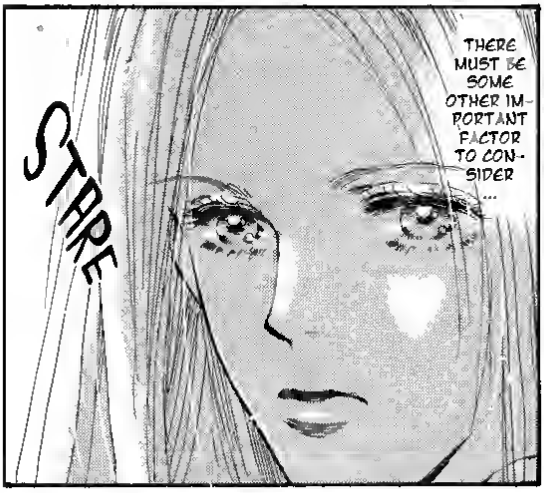
DO YOU TRULY BELIEVE THAT HANA-SAN IS STILL ALIVE?
I'VE ...
YET TO SEE...
A BODY ...
SO I BELIEVE THERE'S STILL A CHANCE.
Hmm?
MAYBE ...
IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN A WISH THOUGH.

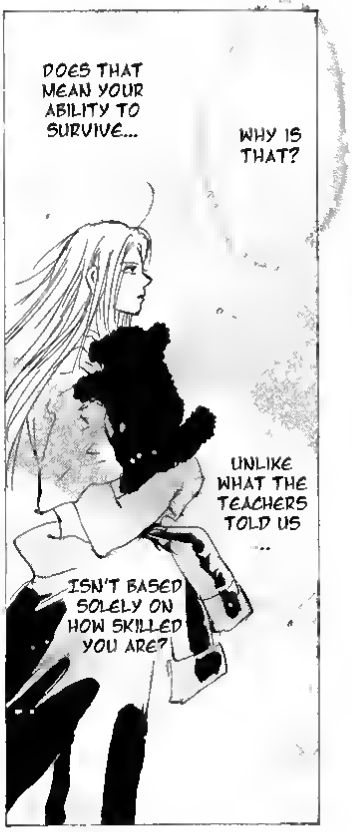

SHALL WE REST IN THIS AREA FOR TODAY?
ALL RIGHT, THE SUN IS ABOUT TO SET AFTER ALL.
THE SEA SEEMS TO BE A GOOD PLACE TO FIND FOOD.
Come now, Kuroda behave yourself!
SHALL WE GO DIVING TO SEE IF WE CAN FIND ANYTHING?
AH ...
WELL ...
I'M AFRAID I'D HAVE TO SIT OUT FOR THAT ..
SINCE I CAN'T SWIM.
Sorry!
The sea is my weak point
YOU CAN'T SWIM ?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT TWICE, YOU KNOW...
YOU CAN'T SWIM ?


NO...
BUT...
THIS PERSON ...
WAS ABLE TO SURVIVE HERE ON HIS OWN FOR OVER A DECADE

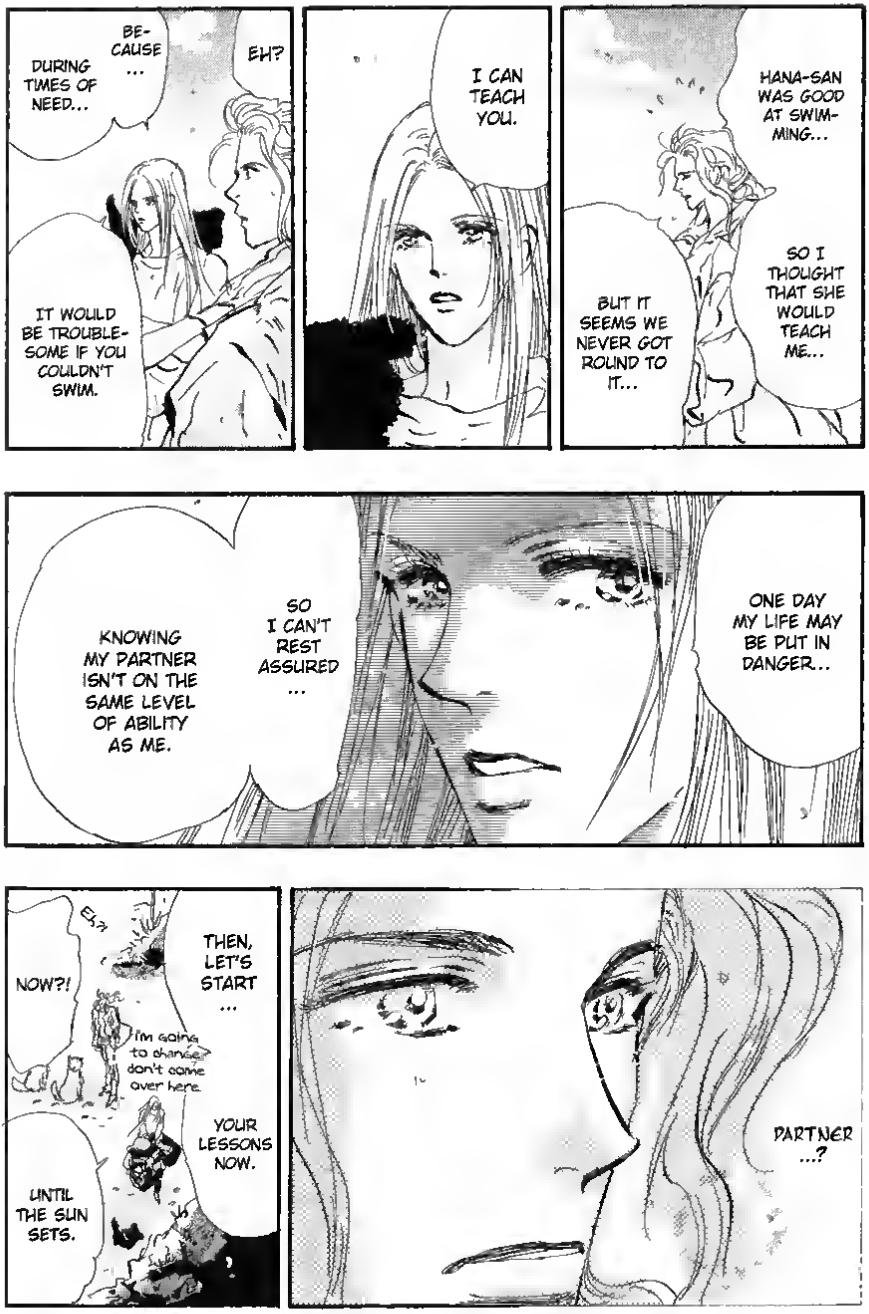

I'm sorry when they taught us in elementary school, I failed right from the begin-ning.
During summer vacation too, while everyone else was going to the pools all I ever did was play base-ball.
EVEN I CAN UNDERSTAND ANGO'S RESENTMENT IN THAT RE-SPECT.
FWIP


UN-BELIEV-ABLE!
HOW SHAME-LESS!
TO THINK YOU COULD COME HERE WITHOUT A BASIC SKILL LIKE THAT!


STARE
THERE MUST BE SOME OTHER IM-PORTANT FACTOR TO CON-SIDER ...

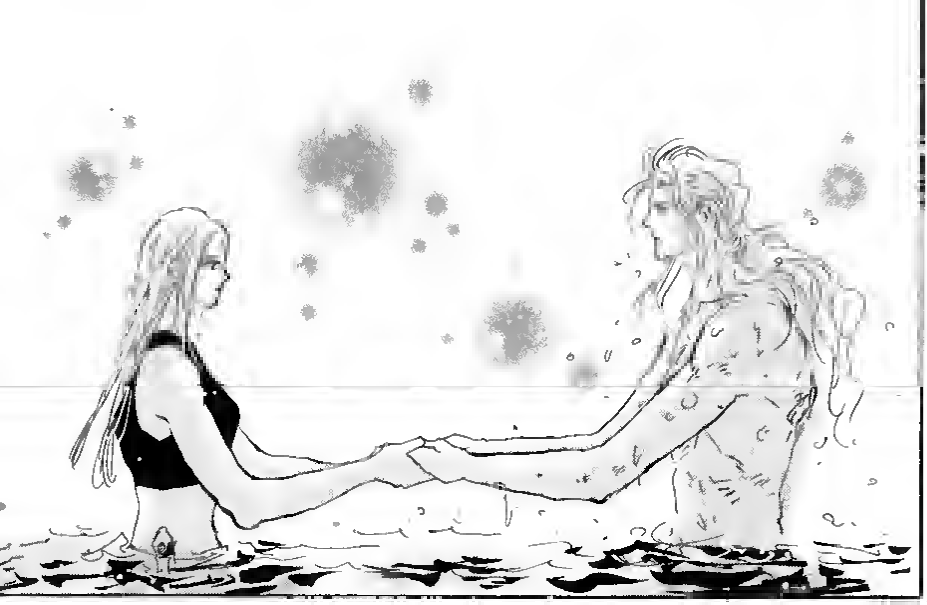

DOES THAT MEAN YOUR ABILITY TO SURVIVE...
WHY IS THAT?
UNLIKE WHAT THE TEACHERS TOLD US ...
ISN'T BASED SOLELY ON HOW SKILLED YOU ARE?

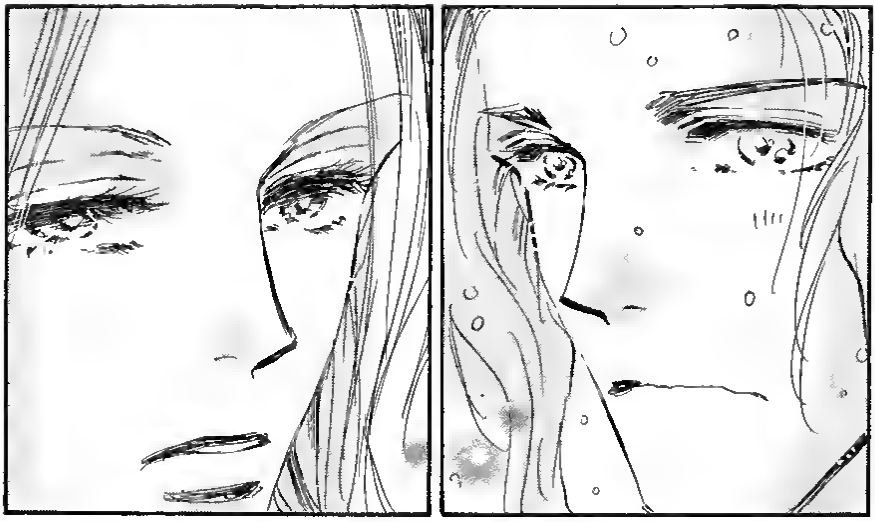
I'M SORRY ...
Is it be-cause I'm shame-less?
WH ...
WHAT IS IT?

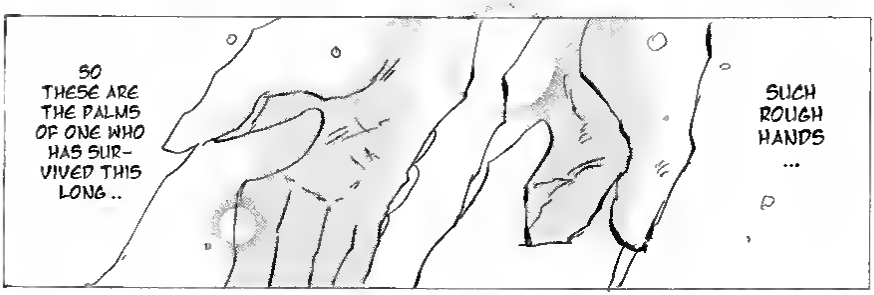

HANA-SAN WAS GOOD AT SWIMMING...
SO I THOUGHT THAT SHE WOULD TEACH ME...
BUT IT SEEMS WE NEVER GOT ROUND TO IT...
I CAN TEACH YOU.
EH?
BECAUSE ...
DURING TIMES OF NEED...
IT WOULD BE TROUBLESOME IF YOU COULDN'T SWIM.
ONE DAY MY LIFE MAY BE PUT IN DANGER..
SO I CAN'T REST ASSURED ...
KNOWING MY PARTNER ISN'T ON THE SAME LEVEL OF ABILITY AS ME.
PARTNER ...?
THEN, LET'S START ...
EH?
NOW?!
I'm going to change, don't come over here.
YOUR LESSONS NOW.
UNTIL THE SUN SETS.

I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK...
But she sure is cool.
UWAH!
It'll be a good idea to keep your sandals on, to prevent injuries.
THERE ARE SEVERAL ROCK POOLS IN THIS AREA...
SO WE'LL START THERE TO GET YOU ACCUSTOMED TO THE WATER.
Ruff Ruff
WILL THESE SHORTS DO...?
Are you gonna swim?
Or rather, I've only got these old tattered things.
You're gonna swim?
I DON'T HAVE ANY SWIMMING TRUNKS.
In the first place
UH, PROBABLY ...
THEN GIVE IT A GO.
ARE YOU ABLE TO FLOAT AT LEAST?
CAN YOU PUT YOUR HEAD UNDER-WATER?

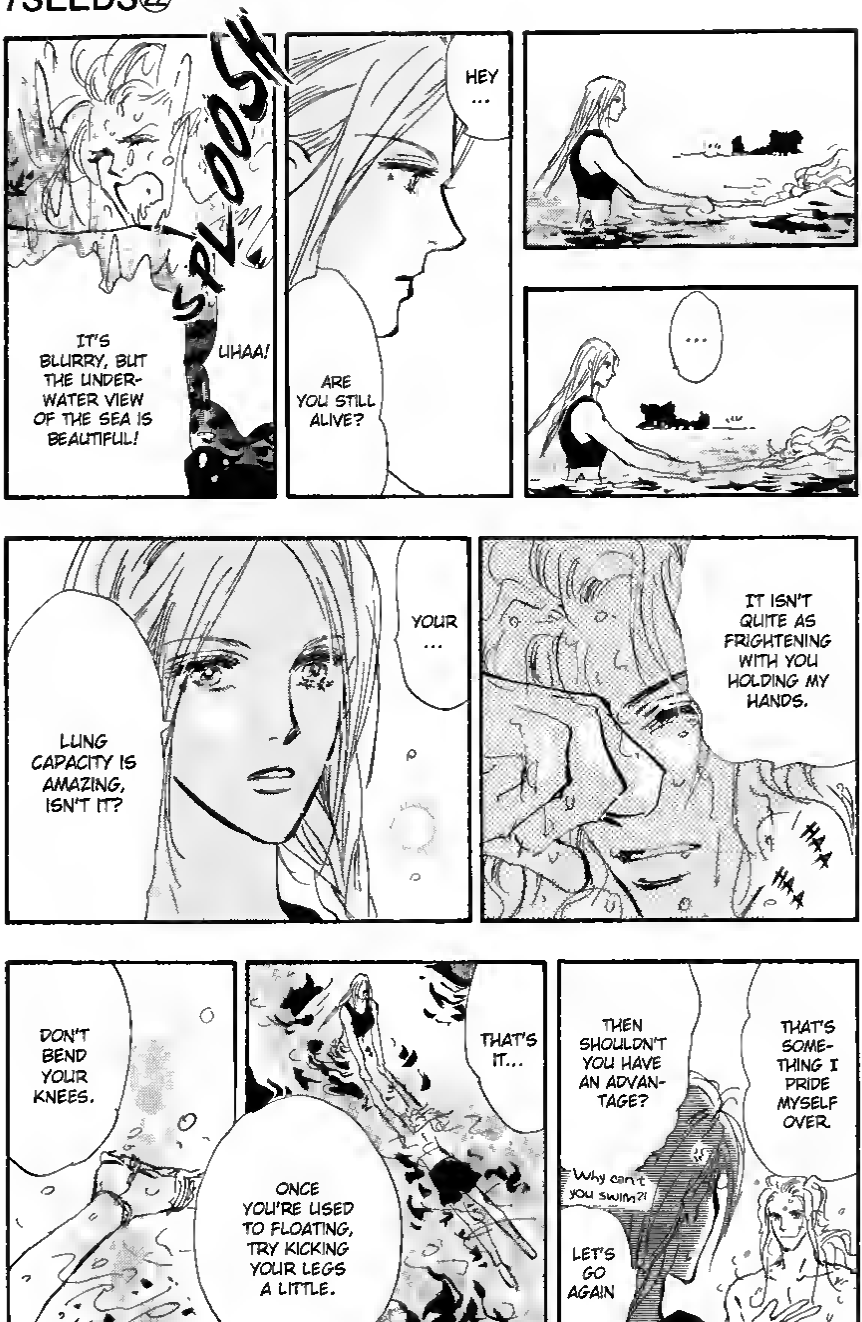
COUGH COUGH
EEEE!
SPLOOSH
SPLASH
SPLOOSH
Splash
SPLOOSH
IT'S FRIGHTENING TO TAKE MY FEET OFF THE GROUND!
Rub Rub Rub
I'M SORRY, I FREAKED OUT...
Not to mention Kuroh too!
Glide
EVEN THE DOGS CAN SWIM!
Splish Splish
HOW CAN YOU BE SO BAD AT IT?!
EH...?
IF I DO THAT, WILL IT BE LESS FRIGHTENING?
...MAYBE I SHOULD HOLD YOUR HAND.
We've got to do something about that.



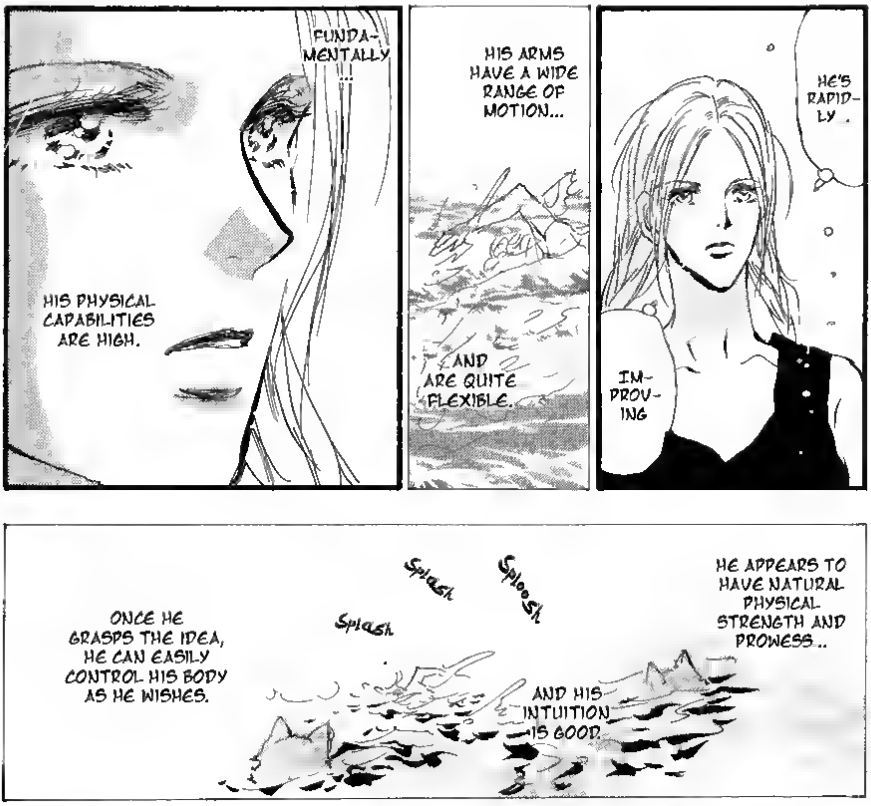



SO THESE ARE THE PALMS OF ONE WHO HAS SURVIVED THIS LONG..
SUCH ROUGH HANDS ...

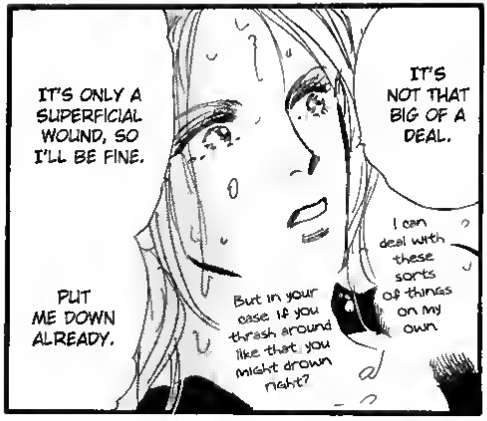
THERE'S NO NEED TO EXERT ANY STRENGTH
LET THE WATER CARRY YOUR BODY...
AND YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FLOAT NATURALLY.
OH?
P-PLEASE DON'T STROKE MY PALMS WITH YOUR FINGERS!
It tickles!
I'M SORRY.
ALL RIGHT, TRY AGAIN
TRY OPENING YOUR EYES.
RELAX YOUR ARMS.
BLUBB
BLUBB
HIS BACK IS COVERED IN SCARS.
FROM BEING ATTACKED BY ANIMALS, I GUESS...
JUST RELAX.
WO... AH...

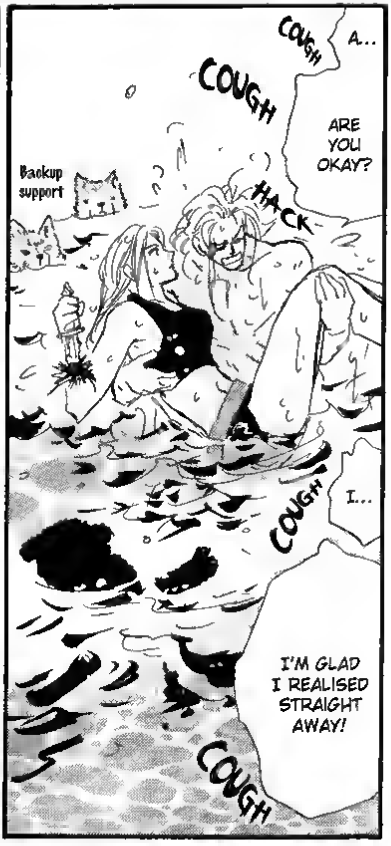

SPLOOSH
IT'S BLURRY, BUT THE UNDER-WATER VIEW OF THE SEA IS BEAUTIFUL!
UHAA!
HEY ...
ARE YOU STILL ALIVE?
...
YOUR ...
LUNG CAPACITY IS AMAZING, ISN'T IT?
IT ISN'T QUITE AS FRIGHTENING WITH YOU HOLDING MY HANDS.
HAA HAA
DON'T BEND YOUR KNEES.
ONCE YOU'RE USED TO FLOATING, TRY KICKING YOUR LEGS A LITTLE.
THAT'S IT...
THEN SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE AN ADVAN-TAGE?
Why can't you swim?!
LET'S GO AGAIN
THAT'S SOME-THING I PRIDE MYSELF OVER.

THAT'S IT.
IF YOU'RE FEELING CONFIDENT, WE CAN MOVE OUT OF THE POOLS.
YOU SHOULD BE FINE —
I WON'T LET GO.
YOU SEE?
YOU CAN GO FORWARD EVEN IF YOU LEAVE THEM BE.
NOW TRY IT AGAIN.
LOOSEN UP...
THAT'S RIGHT, USE THE SAME AMOUNT OF STRENGTH FOR BOTH ARMS
WE'LL LEAVE OUT BREATHING TECHNIQUES FOR NOW.
I'M LETTING GO NOW.
DON'T BEND YOUR WRISTS.
STROKE YOUR ARMS THROUGH THE WATER ...

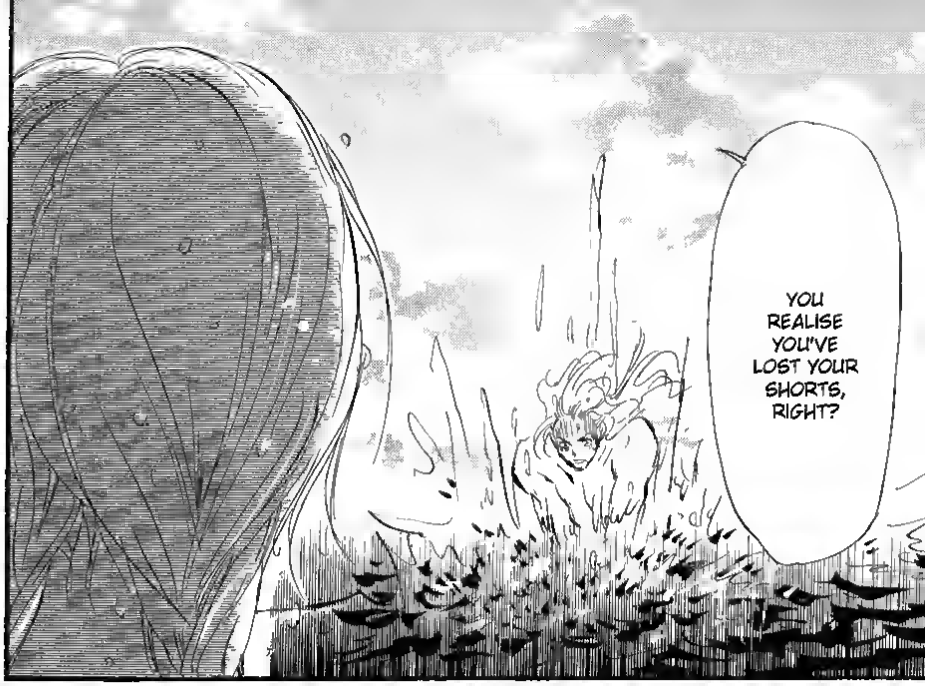

FUNDA-MENTALLY...
HIS PHYSICAL CAPABILITIES ARE HIGH.
HIS ARMS HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF MOTION...
AND ARE QUITE FLEXIBLE.
HE'S RAPID-LY.
IM-PROV-ING
ONCE HE GRASPS THE IDEA, HE CAN EASILY CONTROL HIS BODY AS HE WISHES.
Splash
Splash
Sploosh
AND HIS INTUITION IS GOOD.
HE APPEARS TO HAVE NATURAL PHYSICAL STRENGTH AND PROWESS..
Prick
OUCH ...
Try not to bend your legs and hips.
YOUR STROKE IS STILL A BIT MESSY, BUT AT LEAST ...
ALL RIGHT, HAVE ANOTHER GO..
YOU'RE BETTER THAN YOU WERE BEFORE.
SPLOOSH
DID YOU SEE THAT?!
I WAS JUST SWIM-MING, WASN'T I?
ISN'T THAT AMAZ-ING?

SPLOOSH
AYU-SAN !!
BLUBB
What is this?
A sea urchin?
Is it stuck?
BLUBB
BLUBB


IT'S ONLY A SUPERFICIAL WOUND, SO I'LL BE FINE.
PUT ME DOWN ALREADY.
IT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL.
I can deal with these sorts of things on my own
But in your case if you thrash around like that you might drown right?


COUGH
A...
COUGH
ARE YOU OKAY?
Backup support
HACK
COUGH
I...
I'M GLAD I REALISED STRAIGHT AWAY!
COUGH

YES ...
I'M FINE.
CAN YOU WALK ?
YOU SHOULD WATCH WHERE YOU TREAD TOO...

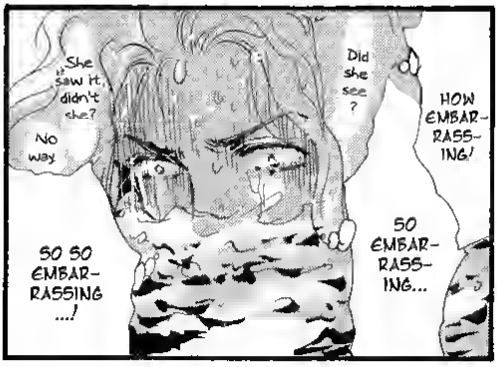

YOU REALISE YOU'VE LOST YOUR SHORTS, RIGHT?

AYU-SAN REALLY IS COOL, AFTER ALL.
I'm so ashamed!
Utterly ashamed!
BUT SHE DIDN'T EVEN BAT AN EYE-LASH...

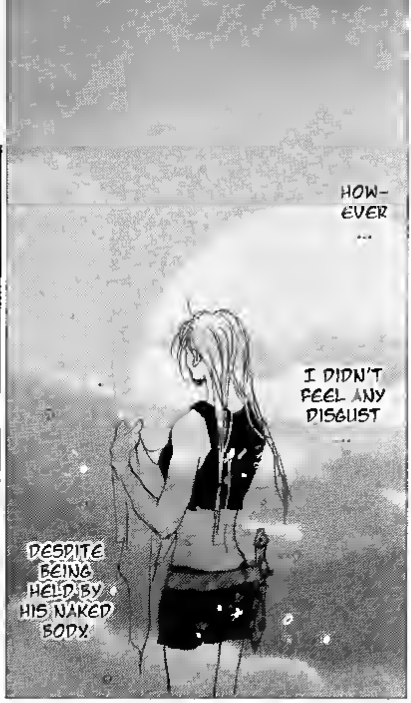
Snigger
Peek!
Snigger
WELL ...
THANKS ANYWAY

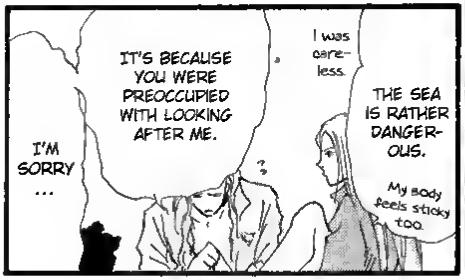
UGH...
Here you go
Thank you

AS EXPECTED, THAT DID..
GET ME A LITTLE FLUSTERED
For various reasons.
EVEN THOUGH ..
I OFTEN SAW SUCH THINGS AS A CHILD...
Waahoo!
Boys are idiots!
Stupid!

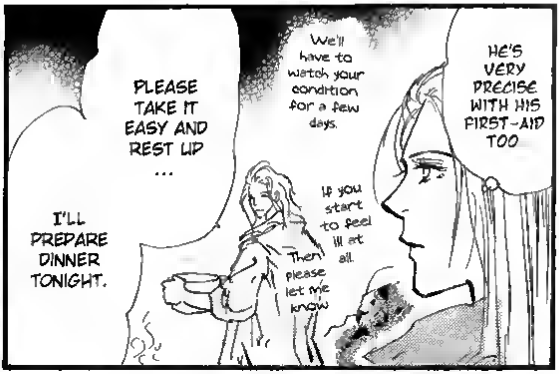

She saw it, didn't she?
No way
Did she see?
HOW EMBARRASSING!
SO SO EMBARRASSING ....!
SO EMBARRASSING...

Rub Rub
I'M FAIRLY CERTAIN THIS SALVE IS EFFECTIVE AGAINST ANY INJURY...
BUT LET'S HOPE THAT URCHIN WASN'T POISONOUS.

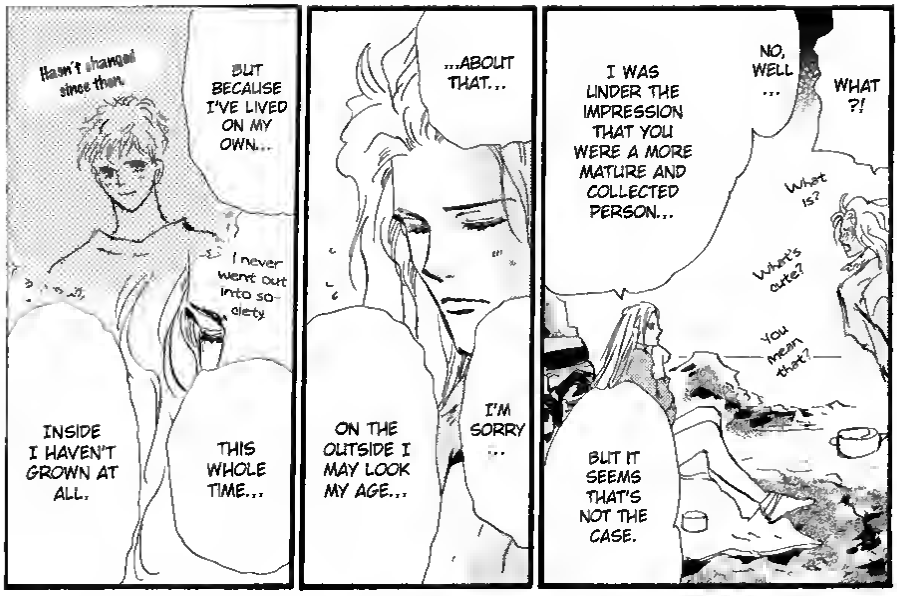

HOW-EVER ...
I DIDN'T FEEL ANY DISGUST ...
DESPITE BEING HELD BY HIS NAKED BODY.

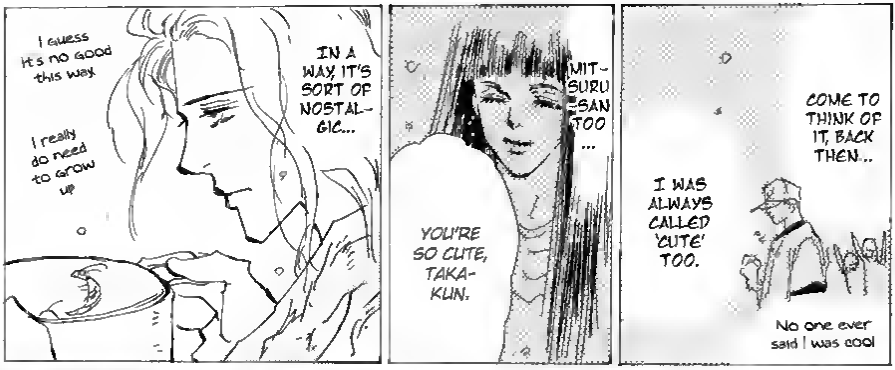

I was care-less.
THE SEA IS RATHER DANGER-OUS.
My body feels sticky too.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE PREOCCUPIED WITH LOOKING AFTER ME.
I'M SORRY ...

WE CAUGHT THESE SHRIMP-LIKE THINGS ...
SO I'LL TRY BOILING THEM ...
TAKA-SAN...
SAY...


HE'S VERY PRECISE WITH HIS FIRST-AID TOO
We'll have to watch your condition for a few days.
If you start to feel ill at all
Then please let me know
PLEASE TAKE IT EASY AND REST UP ...
I'LL PREPARE DINNER TONIGHT.

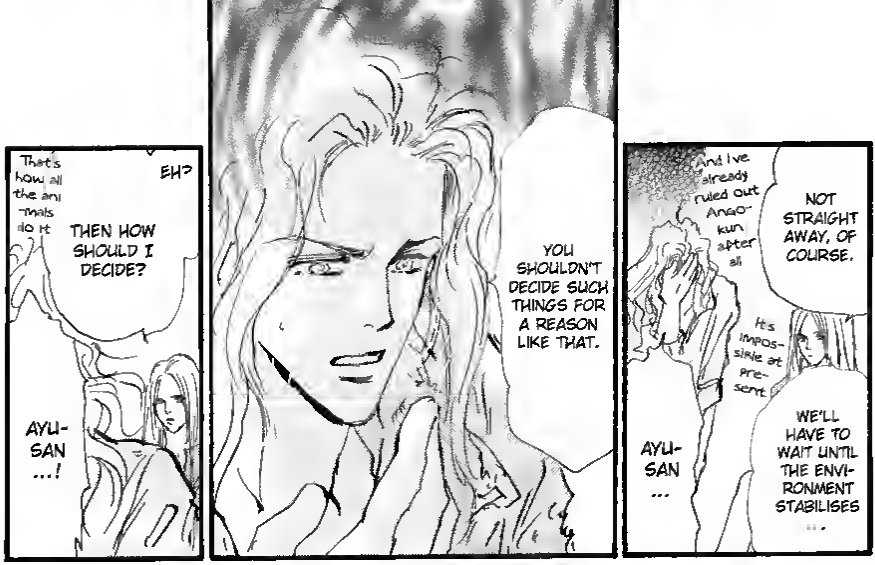
CLANG
SURPRISING-LY CUTE.
YOU'RE ...

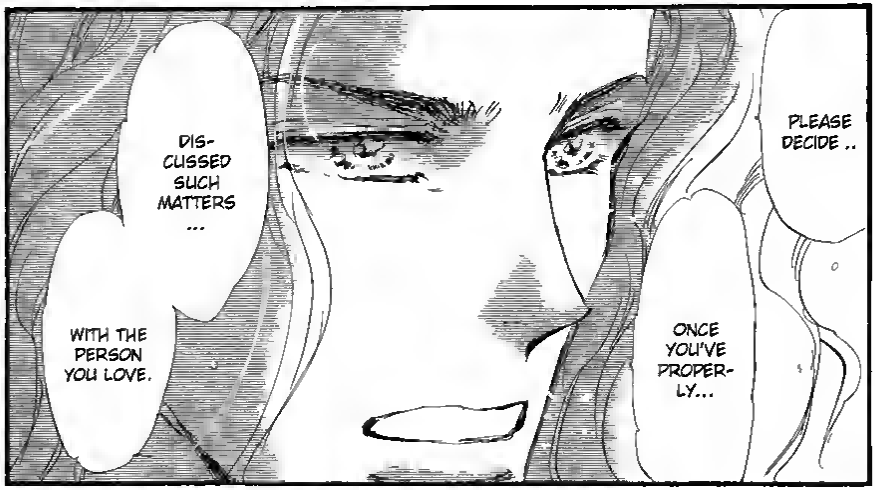

Hasn't changed since then.
BUT BECAUSE I'VE LIVED ON MY OWN...
I never went out into society
INSIDE I HAVEN'T GROWN AT ALL.
THIS WHOLE TIME...
...ABOUT THAT...
I'M SORRY...
ON THE OUTSIDE I MAY LOOK MY AGE...
I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT YOU WERE A MORE MATURE AND COLLECTED PERSON...
NO, WELL...
WHAT?!
What is?
What's cute?
You mean that?
BUT IT SEEMS THAT'S NOT THE CASE.


I guess it's no good this way.
I really do need to grow up
IN A WAY, IT'S SORT OF NOSTALGIC...
MITSURU-SAN TOO...
YOU'RE SO CUTE, TAKA-KUN.
COME TO THINK OF IT, BACK THEN...
I WAS ALWAYS CALLED 'CUTE' TOO.
No one ever said I was cool

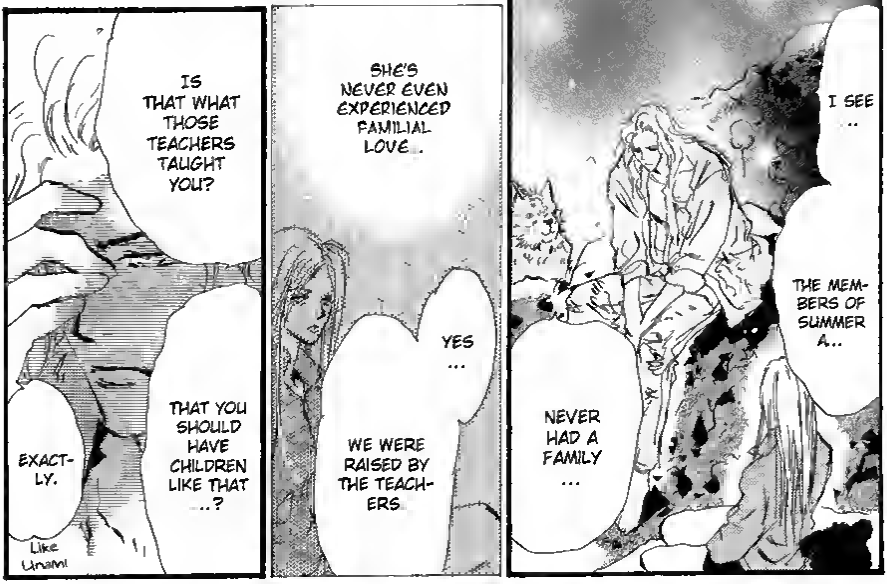
TAKA-SAN...
...SAY...

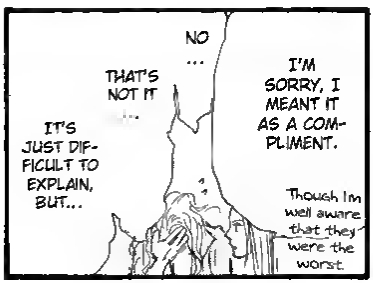
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MY COMPANION?
I BELIEVE THAT ONE DAY I'LL GIVE BIRTH TO CHILDREN TOO...
SO WHEN THAT TIME COMES...
CLANG
ABOVE ALL ELSE, I WANT TO PRODUCE OFFSPRING WITH EXCELLENT GENES.
YOU APPEAR TO BE A FAIRLY SUITABLE COMPANION.
AS FAR AS I HAVE OBSERVED ...
ARE YOU SAYING ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHA ...
WHAT...
wasn't expectin a that!
IT'S NOT THAT I'M AVERSE TO IT...
THE THING IS ..
OF COURSE IT CAN'T BE HELPED IF YOU'RE AVERSE TO THE IDEA, BUT...

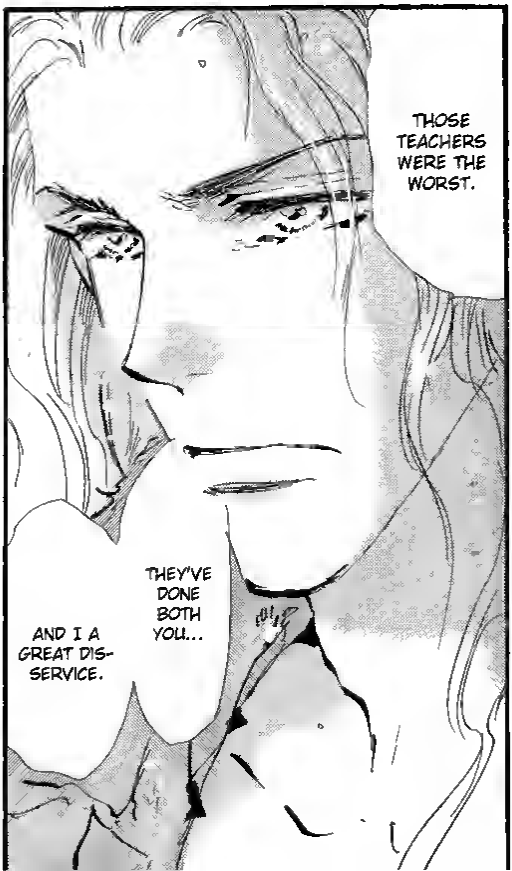

That's how all the animals do it
EH?
THEN HOW SHOULD I DECIDE?
AYU-SAN ...!
YOU SHOULDN'T DECIDE SUCH THINGS FOR A REASON LIKE THAT.
And I've already ruled out Angou-kun after all
NOT STRAIGHT AWAY, OF COURSE.
It's impossible at present
AYU-SAN ...
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE ENVIRONMENT STABILISES ...


DIS-CUSSED SUCH MATTERS ...
WITH THE PERSON YOU LOVE.
PLEASE DECIDE ..
ONCE YOU'VE PROPER-LY...

I have to explain from there?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'LOVE'?
AYU-SAN...
I know the word but

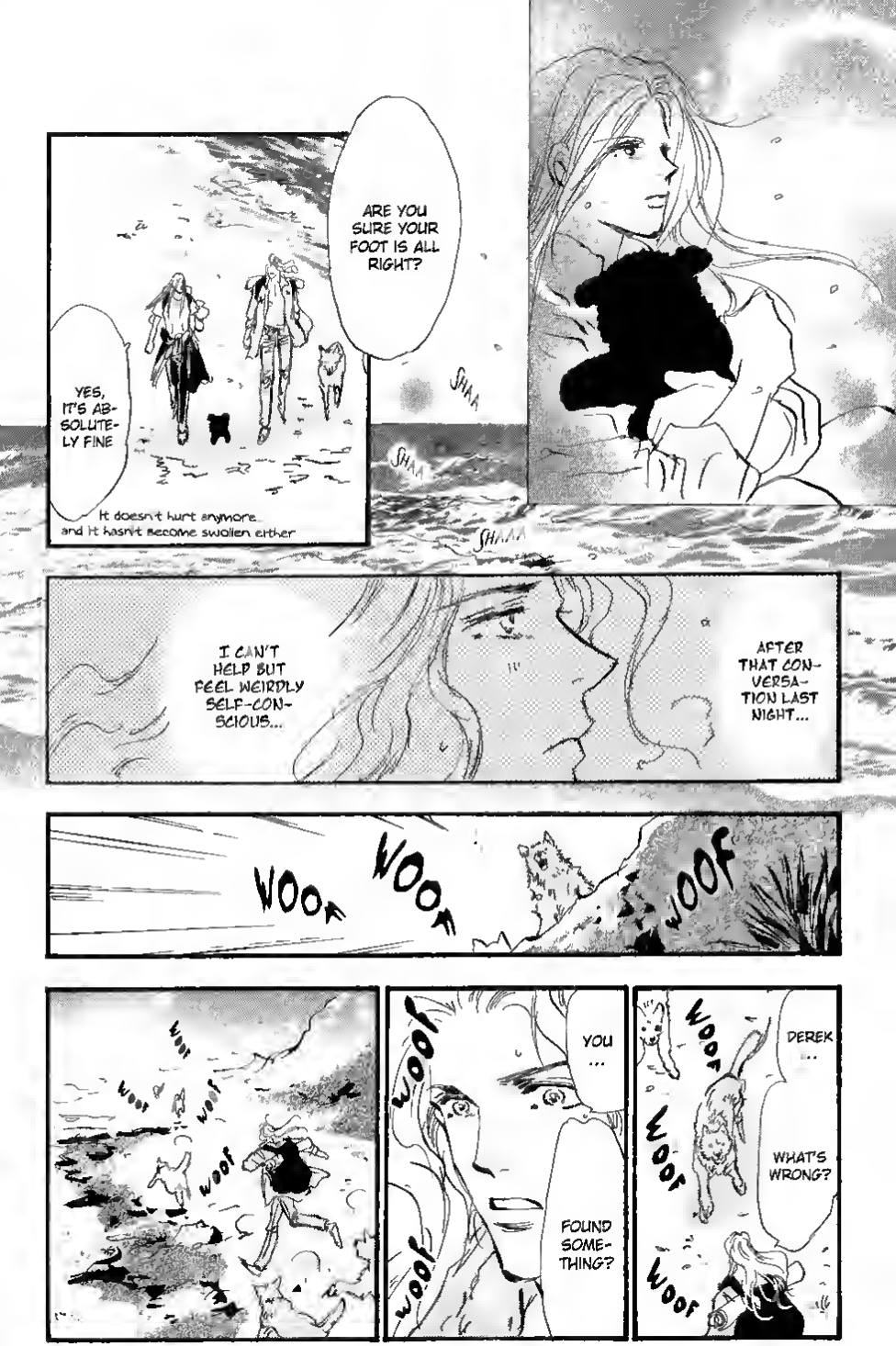

I SEE ...
THE MEMBERS OF SUMMER A...
NEVER HAD A FAMILY ...
SHE'S NEVER EVEN EXPERIENCED FAMILIAL LOVE..
YES ...
WE WERE RAISED BY THE TEACHERS
IS THAT WHAT THOSE TEACHERS TAUGHT YOU?
THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE CHILDREN LIKE THAT ...?
EXACTLY.
Like Urami


NO ...
I'M SORRY, I MEANT IT AS A COMPLIMENT.
THAT'S NOT IT ...
IT'S JUST DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN, BUT...
Though I'm well aware that they were the worst.

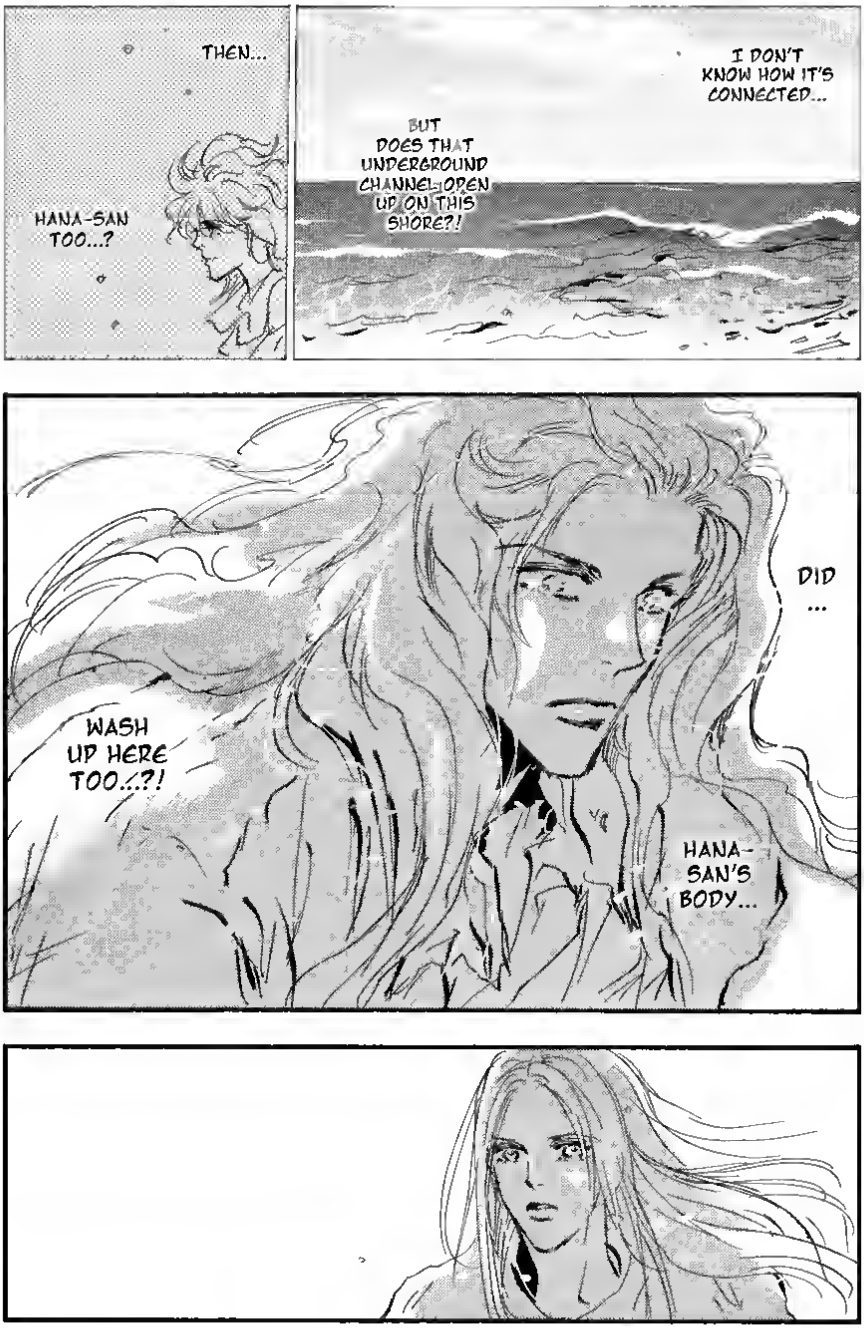

THOSE TEACHERS WERE THE WORST.
THEY'VE DONE BOTH YOU...
AND I A GREAT DISSERVICE.

IF..
YOU FIND SOMEONE YOU CAN TREASURE ...
A PERSON...
WHO YOU CAN'T BEAR TO PART WITH...
A PERSON YOU CAN LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY...
AND WHO YOU YEARN TO EMBRACE ...
THEN PLEASE, CATCH AHOLD OF THAT PERSON WITH EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT.
I DID TREASURE THE PLANTS I USED TO RAISE.
So I sort of understand the feeling of unconditional love.
Yes
THAT'S A WONDERFUL THING IN ITSELF.
...
I SEE ...
IS HANA-SAN ...
THE PERSON YOU LOVE?
...
THAT'S .. PROBABLY ..
A LITTLE DIFFERENT.
BESIDES, HANA-SAN ALREADY HAS SOMEONE SHE LOVES...

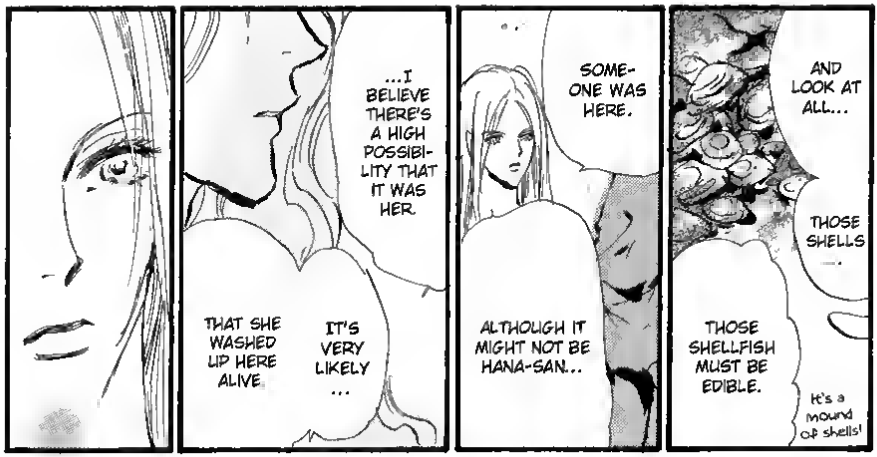
ADMIRATION...
DEVOTION...
SINCE ...
IN REALITY ...
I'VE YET TO SERIOUSLY FALL IN LOVE MYSELF.
AHH ...
I'M SORRY ...
I DON'T ...
HAVE ANY RIGHT TO SAY SUCH LOFTY WORDS EITHER.
THAT'S RIGHT ...
A SENSE OF FATE...
THESE ARE THINGS THAT ARE ALL TOO SIMILAR...
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT ...
IT'S VERY COMPLICATED FOR VARIOUS REASONS...
Stroke
WHINE
WHIMPER

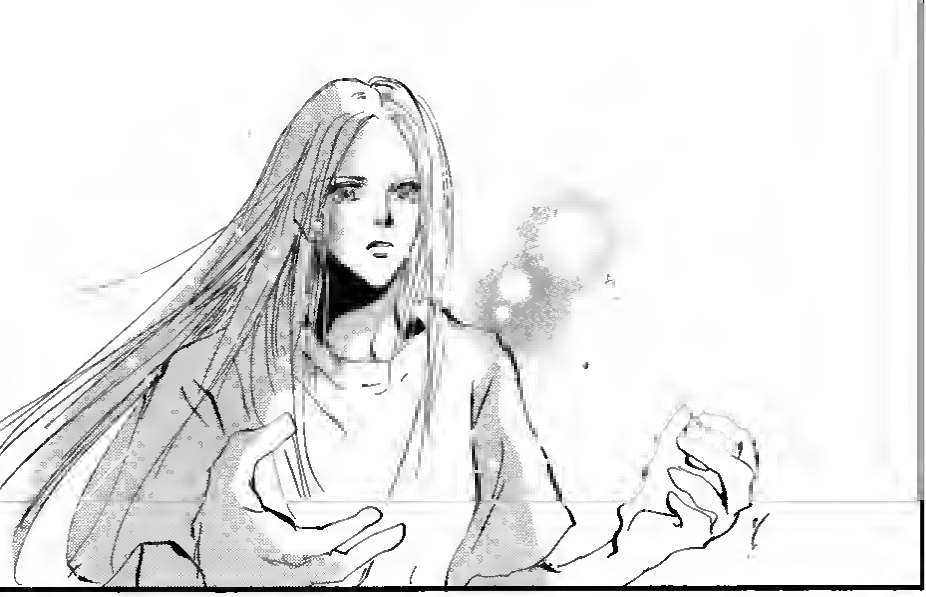

ARE YOU SURE YOUR FOOT IS ALL RIGHT?
YES, IT'S ABSOLUTELY FINE
It doesn't hurt anymore... and it hasn't become swollen either
SHAA
SHAA
SHAA
I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL WEIRDLY SELF-CONSCIOUS...
AFTER THAT CONVERSATION LAST NIGHT...
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
YOU...
FOUND SOMETHING?
DEREK...
WHAT'S WRONG?

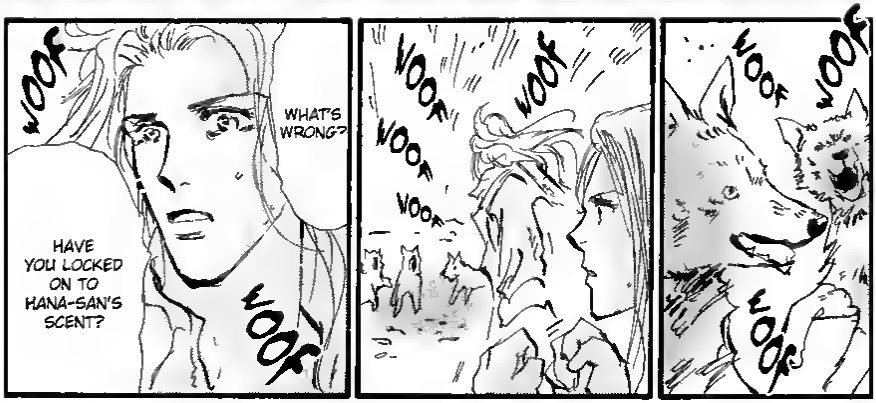
IS...
THE ONE I PURPOSELY DROPPED INTO THE UNDER-GROUND RIVER THAT SWEPT HANA-SAN AWAY...?
THIS MY HANDKER-CHIEF?
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
THE CLIMBING SHOES...
HANA-SAN'S ...
HANA-SAN WAS WEARING BACK THEN ...?!
Only one side though
I found this!
Whaddya think?
WOOF
WOOF
SHAAA

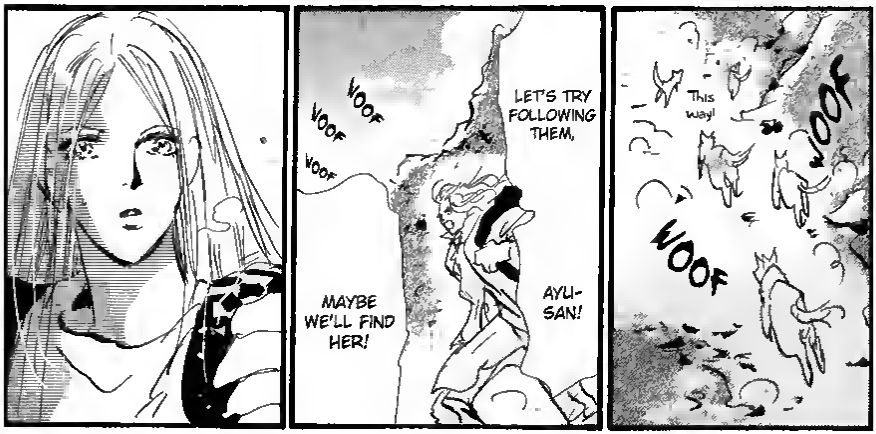

THEN...
HANA-SAN TOO...?
I DON'T KNOW HOW IT'S CONNECTED...
BUT DOES THAT UNDERGROUND CHANNEL OPEN UP ON THIS SHORE?!
DID ...
HANA-SAN'S BODY...
WASH UP HERE TOO...?!

LOOK!
TAKA-SAN...
IT LOOKS LIKE WHOEVER DID IT KNEW TO PROPERLY BURY IT TOO.
THOSE ARE THE REMAINS OF A CAMPFIRE.


...I BELIEVE THERE'S A HIGH POSSIBILITY THAT IT WAS HER.
THAT SHE WASHED UP HERE ALIVE.
IT'S VERY LIKELY ...
SOMEONE WAS HERE.
ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT NOT BE HANA-SAN...
AND LOOK AT ALL...
THOSE SHELLS ...
THOSE SHELLFISH MUST BE EDIBLE.
It's a mound of shells!




WOOF
WHAT'S WRONG?
HAVE YOU LOCKED ON TO HANA-SAN'S SCENT?
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF


MAYBE WE'LL FIND HER!
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
LET'S TRY FOLLOWING THEM,
AYU-SAN!
This way!
WOOF
WOOF

BUT NO MATTER HOW SIMILAR THEY ARE TO SHIITAKE ...
IT WOULD BE NICE IF THEY WERE EDIBLE ...
I AGREE
IT'S STILL TOO RISKY TO TEST THEM...
It's like a mushroom forest now!
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT
PERHAPS IT'S THE SEASON FOR THEM ...
THE AMOUNT ...
OF MUSHROOMS HAS INCREASED AGAIN
THESE ARE THE SHIMEJI -LIKE ONES.
OHH! THEY'VE INCREASED AGAIN.
JUST THAT ...
WE THOUGHT THAT MAYBE THIS SORT OF THING HAPPENED HERE ALL THE TIME
AT FIRST ...
Man, I wanna eat a mountain of mushrooms!
WE WEREN'T SUSPICIOUS AT ALL
IT DID CROSS MY MIND THAT USUALLY MUSHROOMS TEND TO BE LIMITED TO THE TYPE OF TREES THEY CAN GROW ON ..
SO IT STRUCK ME AS STRANGE THAT THAT WASN'T THE CASE HERE.
Shiitake, shimeji and enoki-looking ones.
There are only three different species.
They sure look delicious
SINCE ALL THE SPECIES SEEMED TO BE THE SAME...

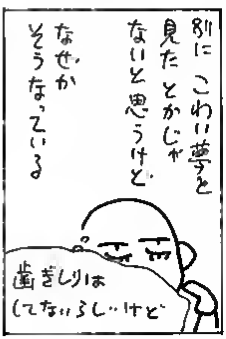
You're up early as usual.
WHAT'S WRONG, CHISA-CHAN?
SOME-THING ...
SEEMS ODD.
Urgh
GET UP, YOU TWO.
Uhh
PLEASE WAKE UP.
Tremble
Tremble
Tremble
YOU'RE RIGHT, EVERY-THING SEEMS QUIET.
USUALLY YOU CAN HEAR ALL THE ANIMAL NOISES ...
Nnah!
ODD?
LIKE THE AIR HAS CHANGED OR SOME-THING...
JERK
HANA ...
Gulp
MAYBE WE SHOULD TAKE A LOOK AROUND...

NO WAY ..
HOW CAN THERE BE SO MANY ...?

THIS IS UNNATURAL.

おまけの たむたむたいむ

by TAMU



マウスピースを作りましょう

歯医者さんの勝手に水がたまるつけ装置が好き♡

それをつけて寝るようにして下さい

てなことに。

マウスピースつけて寝る。

はずれてのどにつまったりは？

型をとるために

なんか粘土みたいなかたまりをぐいっとかんで

固まるまでしばし待つ

数日後

上の歯の形の透明なカバーができてきました。

上の歯にぱこっとはまる

ぴったりなのでカンタンにはずれません

なんだかずもろいw

はじめは違和感があったけど

すぐ慣れた。

ぐうぐう

あいかわらず歯をくいしばって寝てるけど

(その原因はわからないらしい)

多少クッションになっていいのかしら

穴があいたらまた作りますね

もし日ごろ歯をくいしばっているかがいろいろしたら

歯医者さんに言ってみて下さい

歯はたまに休ませてあげてください

起きてる時もつけてるとくいくいよ

つけてないけど。

ではではまたねー

つぎもよろしくおねがいいたします！

田村由美

7SEEDS㉒

flowersフラワーコミックスα

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